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THE BAD BOY AND HIS DAD ABROAD

BY HON. GEORGE W. PECK.

London, England.—My Dear Old Skate: Well, if we are going to see any of the other countries on this side of the water before our return ticket expires, we have got to be getting a move on, and dad says in about a week we will be doing stunts in Paris that will bring about a revolution, and wind up the republic of France, and seat some nine-spot on

"ALWAYS GLAD TO SERVE ANY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THE HEROES," SAID THE GUARD.

the throne that Napoleon used to wear out his buckskin pants on.

Dad asked me tother day what I cared most to see in London, and I told him I wanted to visit Newgate prison, and the places made famous by the bold highwaymen of a century or two ago. He thought I was daffy, but when I told him how I had read "Claude Duval" and "Sixteen-String Jack" and all the highway literature, in the haymow, when dad thought I was weeding the garden, he confessed that he used to hunt those yellow covered books out of the manger when I was not reading them, and that he had read them all himself, when I thought he was studying for his campaign speeches, and so he said he would go with me. So we visited Homestead Heath, where Claude Duval used to ride "Black Bess," and hold up people who traveled at night in post chaises, and we found splendid spots where there has been more highway robbery going on than any place east of Missouri, but I was disgusted when I thought what chumps those old highway robbers were, compared to the American highway robbers and hold up men of the present day.

In Claude Duval's time he had a brace of flint-lock pistols, which he had to examine the priming every time a victim showed up, and while he was polite when he robbed a duchess, he used to kill people all right, though if they had had cameras at that time the flash from the priming pan would have taken a flashlight picture of the robber, so he could have been identified when he rode off in the night to a roadside inn and filled up on beer, while he counted the ten shillings he had taken from the silk purse of the victim. Why, one of our American gangs that hold up a train, and get an express safe full of greenbacks, and shoots up a mess of railroad hands and passengers with Winchesters and automatic pistols, and blows up cars with dynamite and gets away and has to have a bookkeeper and a cashier to keep their bank accounts straight, could give those old Claude Duvals and Sixteen-String Jacks cards and spades.

But civilization, dad says, has done much for the highway robbery business, and he says we in America have arrived at absolute perfection. However, I was much interested in looking over the ground where my first heroes lived and died, and did business, and when we went to the prisons where they were confined, and were shown where Tyburn Tree stood, that so many of them were hung on, tears came to my eyes at the thought that I was on the sacred ground where my heroes croaked, and went to their deaths with smiles on their faces, and polite to the last. The guard who showed us around thought that dad and I were relatives of the deceased highway-

A POLICEMAN FISHED DAD OUT OF THE DITCH.

men, and when we went away he said to dad: "Call again, Mr. Duval. Always glad to serve any of the descendants of the heroes. What line of robbery are you in, Mr. Duval?" Dad was mad, but he told the guard he was now on the stock exchange, and so we maintained the reputation of the family.

Then we hired horses and took a horseback ride through Rotten Row, where everybody in London that has the price, rides a horse, and no carriages are allowed. Dad was an old calvary man forty years ago, and he is stuck on his shape when he is on a horse, but he came near breaking up the horseback parade the day we went for the ride. The liveryman gave us two bob-tailed nags, a big one for dad and a small one for me, but they didn't have any army saddle for dad, and he had to ride on one of those little English saddles, such as jockeys ride races on, and dad is so big where he sits on a saddle that you couldn't see the saddle, and I guess they gave dad a hurdle jumper, because when we got right amongst the riders, men and women, his horse began to act up, and some one yelled "Tally-ho," and that is something about fox hunting, not a coach, and the horse jumped a fence and dad rolled off over the bowsprit and went into a ditch of dirty water, and the horse went off across a field, and the policeman fished dad out of the ditch, and run him through a clothes wringer or something, and got dad dried out, and sent him to the hotel in an express wagon, and I rode my horse back to the liveryman and told him what had happened to dad, and they locked me up in a box stall until somebody found the horse, cause they thought dad was a horsethief, and they held me for ransom. But dad came around before night and paid my ransom, and we were released. Dad says Rotten Row is rotten, all right enough, and by ginger it is, cause he has not got the smell of that ditch off his clothes yet.

Now he has got a new idea, and that is to go to some country where there are bandits, different from the bandits here in London, and be captured and taken to the mountain fastnesses, and held for ransom until our government makes a fuss about it, and sends warships after us. I tell dad it would be just our luck to have our government fail to try to get us, and the bandits might cut our heads off and stick them on a pole as a warning to people not to travel unless they have a ransom concealed about their clothes. But dad says he is out to see all the sights, and he is going to be ransomed before he gets home, if it takes every dollar our government has got. I think he is going to work the bandit racket when we get to Turkey, but, by ginger, he can leave me at a convent, because I don't want one of those crooked sabers run into me and turned around like a corkscrew. Dad says I can stay in a harem while he goes to the mountains with the bandits, and I don't know as I care, as they say a harem is the most interesting place in Turkey. You know the pictures we have studied in the old grocery, where a whole bunch of beautiful women are practicing using soap in a marble bath.

Well, don't you say anything to ma about it, but dad has got his foot in it clear up to the top button. It isn't anything scandalous, though there is a woman at the bottom of it. You see, we used to know a girl that left home to go out into the world and earn her own living. She elocuted some at private parties and sanitariums, to entertain people that were daffy, and were on the verge of getting permanent bats in their belfry, and after a few years she got on the stage, and made a bunch of money; and went abroad. And then she had married a titled person, and everybody supposed she was a duchess, or a countess, and ma wanted us to inquire about her when we got over here. Ma didn't want us to go and hunt her up to board with her, or anything, but just to get a glimpse of high life, and see if our poor little friend was doing herself proud in her new station in life.

Gee, but dad found her, and she ain't any more of a duchess than I am. Her husband is a younger son of a titled person, but there isn't money enough in the whole family to wad a gun, and our poor girl is working in a shop, or store, selling corsets to support a lazy, drunken husband and a whole mess of children, and while she is seven removes from a duchess, she does not rank with the woman who washes her mother's clothes at home. Gosh, but dad was hot when he found her, and after she told him about her situation in life he gave her a yellow-backed fifty-dollar bill, and came back to the hotel mad, and wanted to pack up and go somewhere else, where he didn't know any titled persons.

That night a couple of dukes came around to the hotel to sell dad some stock in a diamond mine in South Africa, and they got to talking about how English society held over our crude American society, until dad got an addition to the mad he had when he called on our girl, and when one of the dukes said America was being helped socially by the marriage of American women to titled persons, dad got a hot box, like a stalled freight train.

Says dad, says he: "You Johnnies are a lot of confidence men, who live only to rope in rich American girls, so you can marry them and have their dads lift the mortgages on your ancestral estates, and put on tin roofs in place of the mortgages, cause a mortgage will not shed rain, and you get their money and spend it on other women." One of the dukes turned red like a lobster, anyway, and he was going to make dad stop talking, but the duke didn't know dad, and he continued. Says dad, says he: "I know a rich old man in the States, who made ten million dollars on pickles, or breakfast food, and he had a daughter that was so homely they couldn't keep a clock going in the house.

"She came over here and got exposed to a duke, and she had never been vaccinated, and the first her father knew she caught the duke, and came home, and he followed her. Say, he didn't know enough to pound sand, and the old man got several doctors for her, but they couldn't break up the duke fever, and finally the old pickle citizen asked him how much the mortgage was, and how much they could live on, and he bought her the duke, and sent them off, and duke covered his castle with building paper, so it would hold water, and they set up housekeeping with a hundred servants. Then the duke wanted a racing stable, after the baby came, and the old pickle man went over to see the baby, and it looked so much like the old man that he invested in a racing stable, and the servants bowed low to the old man and called him 'Your 'ighness,' and that settled the old pickle person, and he fell into the trap of building a townhouse in London.

"Then he went home and made some more pickles, and the daughter cabled him to come right over, as they had been invited to entertain the king and a lot of other face cards in the pack. And the old man thought it would be great to get in the king row himself, so he shoveled a lot of big bills into some packing trunks and went over to fix up for the king. The

DAD DROVE THE DUKES OUT.

castle had to be redecorated for about six miles, up one corridor and down the other, but Old Pickles stood the raise, because he thought it would be worth the money to be on terms of intimacy with a king.

"Then when it was all ready, and the old man was going to stand at the front door and welcome the king, they made him go to his room, back about half a mile in the rear of the castle, and for two weeks old Pickles had his meals brought to his room, and when it was over, and his sentence had expired, he was let out, and all he saw of the grand entertainment to the crowned heads was a ravine full of empty wine bottles, a case of jimjams for a son-in-law, a case or nervous prostration for a daughter, and hydrophobia for himself. My old pickle friend has got, at this date, three million good pickle dollars invested in your d—d island, and all he has to show for it is a sick daughter, neglected by a featherhead of a husband, and a grandchild that may d'e teething at any time. You are a nice lot of ducks to talk to me about your English society being better than our American civilization. You get," and dad drove the dukes out.

I think they are going to have dad arrested for treason. But don't tell ma, cause she may think treason serious.

Yours, HENNERY.

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ATTAR OF ROSES.

Bulgaria's Industry Has Had a Most Fortunate Year.

English World's Work.

According to the commercial statistics there has not been so good a year as 1903 for the production of attar of roses in Bulgaria for thirty years. It is calculated that 13,770 pounds of this oil of roses were obtained.

The distillers employ chiefly the damask rose, which blooms in the month of May. It is a somewhat delicate plant and a frost will destroy the whole crop. The rosebushes are grown in tall tickets, seven feet apart. In the month of October some of the leafy branches of the old rosebushes are laid horizontally in ditches about twelve inches in width and depth, and covered with good soil. In eighteen months' time these young shrubs come into flower. The crop is gathered in between May 20 and June 15, an acre producing 3,300 pounds of roses. The pickers gather the flowers while they are in bud. These are then put into copper stills, cone-shaped with neck for filling, and the stills are placed upon furnaces of masonry.

Twenty-two pounds of roses and nineteen gallons of water are placed in each still, and the furnace is then lighted. The temperature is gradually reduced when the water begins to boil. After an hour, or an hour and a half, about twelve quarts of liquid are taken away, and there is a second distillation for extracting from the rose water the oil it contains.

LOUBET AND HIS MOTHER

A British clergyman who spent a few days at the little town of Montellimar, where President Loubet lives, gives a very pleasant little picture of France's chief executive: "As I looked out from my window at 6 in the morning," he says, "the sight of a top hat in the midst of many white caps naturally stood out, and I had no difficulty in recognizing the features of the president of the French Republic under the said tall hat.

"Presently a little market cart drove up, in which were seated a very little old woman and beside her a country fellow in a blue blouse. M. Emile Loubet approached the cart and lifted the old woman down and kissed her. She and the countryman unloaded the cart of its greenery, poultry and butter, and then the president gave his arm to the old woman and led her to the stall, which the countryman piled up with the stuff, and with his own hands M. Loubet put up the umbrella which was to shield his mother from the sun. The president stayed chatting to her a few minutes and then turned and walked toward his house."—Exchange.

DISTRICT OF OHIO "FIRELANDS."

Tract Set Apart for Connecticut Sufferers by Benedict Arnold's Warfare.

Unnumbered native Ohioans, not to speak of hundreds of thousands of residents of the state who have come from foreign lands and other states of the American Union, must have wondered why a fertile and productive tract in Northern Ohio, a district which in no way hints of the ravages of fire, should be called the "Firelands." Among all the vicissitudes of Ohio's early history great conflagrations were notable for their absence. No such terrible forest fires swept this state as ravaged large areas in Michigan and Wisconsin seventy or eighty years later.

The fires to which the name refers raged in Connecticut, not Ohio, and they were the work of British or Tory soldiers, instead of the result of accidents or natural causes. In 1781, when the long struggle for independence was nearly ended, Benedict Arnold commanded an expedition which ravaged the Connecticut coast of Long Island Sound. He burned New London and other towns and left behind misery and destitution, as well as a more bitter hatred than he had earned before that outrage upon his native state.

This and other cruel and senseless attacks upon Connecticut's towns left so strong a feeling of sympathy and injustice behind that in disposing of Connecticut's rights in lands now forming part of Ohio 781 square miles in the extreme western edge of the Western Reserve were set apart to be donated to sufferers by the British raids. Five ranges of townships running north and south were included in this tract.

Sandusky Bay and Lake Erie extend so far southward at this point that the five ranges of townships contained only about five hundred thousand acres of land. The tract measured some twenty-seven miles by thirty. The Connecticut sufferers from the torch of the enemy lived chiefly in New London, Norwalk and Fairfield, and it was from those towns that many of the settlers of the "Firelands" came to build in the Ohio wilderness settlements bearing the same names and having like civic ideals and character.—Dayton Herald.

DEATH VALLEY.

"Black Pete, the Scout," as Peter Bitz, of Bisbee, Ariz., is called in the wilds of the southwest, is accompanying H. M. Whitney, of St. Louis, and is stopping at the Republican House, interesting local capital in mining propositions. "Many a time have I crossed Death Valley," said the scout. "It is a stretch of sand perhaps 320 miles long and 80 miles wide and has swallowed up the lives of hundreds of prospectors. But it is the richest stretch of land in the world today. There are veins of it which would produce gold wealth, and the attention of capitalists is being directed toward it from all parts of the world. The great danger is from the standstorms. A party can pitch camp in the desert and start out prospecting and come back to find that the camp has entirely disappeared from the face of the earth. Sand dunes from five to twenty-five feet high sweep over the desert, changing the surface of the land from day to day and entirely obliterating all landmarks. The government is now engaged in erecting tall flagpoles which can be distinguished above the shifting sands and a railroad across the desert which will provide water is being planned.

"I was a government scout from 1866 to 1884 and fought under Gens. Custer, Miles, Forsyth, 'Buffalo Bill' and many others fighting Apaches and Navajo Indians. There is no longer any danger from the Indians in that section now, but there is in Mexico, where the Yaqui tribe is located. They are shrewd and industrious and intelligent, and when the whites attempt to dislodge them from their lands there will be trouble. Occasionally the Arizona Indians get restive, and when they find a prospector alone in the hills they gather him in, but the line riders who patrol the boundary line between this country and Mexico are always on the alert and no one can cross their path without their knowing it."—Milwaukee Wisconsin.

A THANKFUL SOUTHERNER

Mayor J. H. Powell, of Henderson, Ky., has issued the following Thanksgiving proclamation since the Presidential election:

"Whereas, In accordance with Christian custom Thursday, Nov. 24, 1904, hath been set apart as a day of thanksgiving and prayer, I do beseech saints and sinners to go to church and be good. Whether chanting hymns, shooting quail or sipping delicious poison from the eye of beauty, 'keep innocency and take heed unto the thing that is right, for that shall bring a man peace at the last.'

"Let us be thankful that our colonels are not so full of corn as our corn is full of kernels.

"Though the surrounding soil, tickled with a hoe, is laughing with a harvest, poor folks are still with us. From thin soup and cold potatoes, good Lord deliver them. Oh, Christian men and women, astonish the stomach of the starving sufferer with oysters, turkey and mince pie. Adorn the ragged pauper with comfortable clothing.

"Dearly beloved, let us play upon a harp of a thousand strings a new song of praise—give thanks unto the Lord for the most charming crop of beautiful babies ever born in the old town since creation dawned and the morning stars sang together. Sweet, dainty darlings, smile on like sunbeams in shady places. Kick up your little heels and make of earth a heaven.

"With charity unto all and malice toward none I do hereunto subscribe my official signature to the words that have been written this 9th day of November, 1904."

BEWARE OF THESE FLOWERS

It is claimed that the tulip is a dangerous flower. Take a tulip of a deep crimson color and inhale it with profound inspirations and it will be apt to make you lightheaded. You will say and do queer things—dance, sing, fight, swear and so on. For two hours you will cut up in this way. Afterward you will be depressed.

The poppy is another flower supposed to be dangerous. A young woman of a nervous temperament, if she lingers among a bed of poppies, will grow drowsy, the same as if she had smoked a pipe or two of opium.

In Asia Minor, where the opium manufacturers cultivate vast fields of poppies, tourists inspecting the beautiful flowers often become altogether incapacitated. They get so sleepy that they can hardly talk. They reel in their gait. In some cases they have to be put to bed.—Kansas City Journal.

SAFETY IN THUNDERSTORMS

Excellent authorities agree that in a thunderstorm the middle of a room is much the safest place in a house. A carpeted floor or one covered by a thick rug is better to stand on than bare wood. It is well to keep away from chimneys and out of cellars. In the open air tall trees are dangerous. A person sheltered under a low tree or shrub thirty or forty feet from a large and lofty tree is quite safe. If lightning strikes in the immediate vicinity it will hit the high tree as a rule, with few exceptions. Water is a very good conductor, and it is well to avoid the banks of streams in a violent thunderstorm.

Contrary to Her Experience.

"Charley dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I wish I were a bookmaker."

"Why?"

"People seem so generous and good natured about giving a bookmaker money."—Washington Star.

Brewster's Millions

By George Barr McCutcheon.....

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CHAPTER XXIII

AN OFFER OF MARRIAGE

The summer is scarcely a good time to visit Egypt, but Monty and his guests had a desire to see even a little of the northern coast of Africa. It was decided, therefore, that after Athens, the "Flitter" should go south. The yacht had met them at Naples after the automobile procession—a kind of triumphal progress—was disbanded in Florence, and they had taken a hurried survey of Rome. By the middle of July the party was leaving the heat of Egypt and finding it not half bad. New York was not more than a month away as Brewster reckoned time and distance, and there was still too much money in the treasury. As September drew nearer he got into the habit of frequently forgetting Swearingen Jones until it was too late to retrace his steps. He was coming to the "death struggle," as he termed it, and there was something rather terrorizing in the fear that "the million might die hard." And so these last days and nights were glorious ones, if one could have looked at them with unbiased, untroubled eyes. But every member of his party was praying for the day when the "Flitter" would be well into the broad Atlantic and the worst over. At Alexandria Brewster had letters to some Englishmen, and in the few entertainments that he gave succeeded once again, in fairly outdoing Aladdin.

A sheik from the interior was a guest at one of Monty's entertainments. He was a burly, hot-blooded fellow, with a densely-populated harem, and he had been invited more as a curiosity than as one to be honored. As he came aboard the "Flitter," Monty believed the invitation was more than justified. Mohammed was superb, and the women of the party made so much of him that it was small wonder that his head was turned. He fell desperately in love with Peggy Gray on sight, and with all the composure of a potentate who has never been crossed he sent for Brewster the next day and told him to "send her around" and he would marry her. Monty's blood boiled furiously for a minute or two, but he was quick to see the wisdom of treating the proposition diplomatically. He tried to make it plain to the sheik that Miss Gray could not accept the honor he wished to confer upon her, but it was not. Mohammed's custom to be denied anything he asked for—especially anything feminine. He complacently announced that he would come aboard that afternoon and talk it over with Peggy.

Brewster looked the swarthy gentleman over with unconcealed disgust in his eyes. The mere thought of this ugly brute so much as touching the hand of little Peggy Gray filled him with horror, and yet there was something laughable in the situation. He could not hide the smile that came with the mind picture of Peggy listening to the avowal of the sheik. The Arab misinterpreted this exhibition of mirth. To him the grin indicated friendship and encouragement. He wanted to give Brewster a ring as a pledge of affection, but the American declined the offering and also refused to carry a bag of jewels to Peggy.

"I'll let the old boy come aboard just to see Peggy look a hole through him," he resolved. "No matter how obnoxious it may be, it isn't every girl who can say an oriental potentate has asked her to marry him. If this camelherder gets disagreeable we may tumble him into the sea for a change."

With the best grace possible he invited the shiek to come aboard and consult Miss Gray in person. Mohammed was a good bit puzzled over the intimation that it would be necessary for him to plead for anything he had expressed a desire to possess. Brewster confided the news to "Rip" Van Winkle and "Subway" Smith, who had gone ashore with him, and the trio agreed that it would be good sport to let the royal proposal come as a surprise to Peggy. Van Winkle returned to the yacht at once, but his companions stayed ashore to do some shopping. When they approached the "Flitter" later they observed an unusual commotion on deck.

Mohammed had not tarried long after their departure. He gathered his train together, selected a few costly presents that had been returned from the harem and advanced on the boat without delay. The captain of the "Flitter" stared long and hard at the gaily bedecked launches and then called to his first officer. Together they watched the ceremonious approach. A couple of brown-faced heralds came aboard first and announced the approach of the mighty chief. Captain Perry went forward to greet the sheik as he came over the side of the ship, but he was brushed aside by the advance guards. Half a hundred swarthy fellows crowded aboard and then came the sheik, the personification of pomp and pride.

"Where is she?" he asked in his native tongue. The passengers were by this time aware of the visitation, and began to straggle on deck, filled with curiosity.

"What the devil do you mean by coming aboard in this manner?" demanded the now irate Captain Perry, shoving a couple of retainers out of his path and facing the beaming suitor. An interpreter took a hand at this juncture and the doughty captain finally was made to understand the object of the visit. He laughed in the sheik's face and told the mate to call up a few jackies to drive the "dagoes" off. "Rip" Van Winkle interfered and peace was restored. The cruise had changed "Rip" into a happier and far more radiant creature, so it was only natural that he should have shared the secret with Mary Valentine. He had told the story of the shiek's demand to her soon after he came aboard, and she had divulged it to Peggy the instant "Rip" was out of sight.

Brewster found the sheik sitting in state on the upper deck impatiently awaiting the appearance of his charmed. He did not know her name, but he had tranquilly commanded "Rip" to produce all of the women on board so that he might select Peggy from among them. Van Winkle and Bragdon, who now was in the secret, were preparing to march the ladies past the ruler when Monty came up.

"Has he seen Peggy?" he asked of Van Winkle.

"Not yet. She is dressing for the occasion."

"Well, wait and see what happens to him when she gets over the first shock," laughed Monty.

Just then the sheik discovered Peggy, who, pretty as a picture, drew near the strange group. To her amazement two slaves rushed forward and obstructed her passage long enough to beat their heads on the deck a few times, after which they arose and tendered two magnificent necklaces. She was prepared for the proposal, but this action disconcerted her; she gasped and looked about in perplexity. Her friends were smiling broadly and the sheik had placed his hands over his palpitating heart.

"Lothario has a pain," whispered "Rip" Van Winkle sympathetically, and Brewster laughed. Peggy did not hesitate an instant after hearing the laugh. She walked straight toward the sheik. Her cheeks were pink and her eyes were flashing dangerously. The persistent brown slaves followed with the jewels, but she ignored them completely. Brave as she intended to be, she could not express the shudder of repulsion that went over her as she looked full upon this eager Arab.

Graceful and slender she stood before the burly Mohammed, but his ardor was not cooled by the presence of so many witnesses. With a thud he dropped to his knees, wabbling for a moment in the successful effort to maintain a poetic equilibrium. Then he began pouring forth volumes of shattered French, English and Arabic sentiment, accompanied by facial contortions so intense that they were little less than gruesome.

"Oh, joy of the sun supreme, jewel of the only eye, harken to the entreaty of Mohammed." It was more as if he were commanding his troops in battle than pleading for the tender compassion of a lady love. "I am come for you, queen of the sea and earth and sky. My boats are here, my camels there, and Mohammed promises you a palace in the sun-lit hills if you will but let him bask forever in the glory of your smile." All this was uttered in a mixture of tongues so atrocious that "Subway" Smith afterward described it as a salad. The retinue bowed impressively and two or three graceless Americans applauded as vigorously as if they were approving the actions of a well-drilled comic opera chorus. Sailors were hanging in the rigging, on the davits and over the deck house roof.

"Smile for the gentleman, Peggy," commanded Brewster delightedly. "He wants to take a short bask."

"You are very rude, Mr. Brewster," said Peggy, turning upon him coldly. Then to the waiting, expectant sheik: "What is the meaning of this eloquence?"

Mohammed looked bewildered for a moment and then turned to the interpreter, who cleared up the mystery surrounding her English. For the next three or four minutes the air was filled with the "Jewels of Africa," "Star," "Sunlight," "Queen," "Heavenly Joy," "Pearl of the Desert," and other things in bad English, worse French, and perfect Arabic. He was making promises that could not be redeemed if he lived a thousand years. In conclusion the gallant sheik drew a long breath, screwed his face into a simpering grin and played his trump card in unmistakable English. It sounded pathetically like "Your're a peach."

An indecorous roar went up from the white spectators and a jacky in the rigging, suddenly thinking of home, piped up with a bar or two from "The Star Spangled Banner."

Having accomplished what he considered to be his part of the ceremony the sheik arose and started toward his launch, coolly motioning for her to follow. So far as he was concerned the matter was closed. But Peggy, her heart thumping like a trip-hammer, her eyes full of excitement, implored him to stop for a moment.

"I appreciate this great honor, but I have a request to make," she said clearly. Mohammed paused irresolutely and in some irritation.

"Here's where the heathen gets it among the beads," whispered Monty to Mrs. Dan, and he called out: "Captain Perry detail half a dozen men to pick up the beads that are about to slip from his majesty's neck."

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE SHIEK'S STRATEGY.

Peggy gave the sheik an entrancing smile, followed by a brief glance at the beaming Miss Valentine, who nodded her head approvingly.

"Won't you give me time to go below and pack my belongings that they may be sent ashore?" she asked naively.

"Thunder!" gasped Monty. "That's no way to turn him down."

"What do you mean, Monty Brewster?" she cried, turning upon him with flashing eyes.

"Why, you're encouraging the old guy," he protested, disappointment in every inflection.

"And what if I am? Isn't it my affair? I think I am right in suspecting that he has asked me to be his wife. Isn't it my privilege to accept him if I wish?"

Brewster's face was a study. He could not believe that she was in earnest, but there was a ghastly feeling that the joke was being turned on him. The rest of the company stared hard at the flushed Peggy and breathlessly awaited developments.

"It won't do to trifle with this chap, Peggy," said Monty, coming quite close to her. "Don't lead him on. He might get nasty if he thinks you're making sport of him."

"You are quite absurd, Monty," she cried, petulantly. "I am not making sport of him."

"Well, then, why don't you tell him to go about his business?"

"I don't see any beads lying around loose," said "Rip" tormentingly. The sheik impatiently said something to the interpreter and that worthy repeated it for Peggy's benefit.

"The Son of the Prophet desires that you be as quick as possible, Queen of the World. He tires of waiting and commands you to come with him at once."

Peggy winched and her eyes shot a brief look of scorn at the scowling shiek. In an instant, however, she was smiling agreeably and was turning toward the steps.

"Holy mackerel! Where are you going, Peggy?" cried Lotless, the first to turn fearful.

"To throw some things into my trunk," she responded airily. "Will you come with me, Mary?"

"Peggy!" cried Brewster angrily. "This has gone far enough."

"You should have spoken sooner, Monty," she said quietly.

"What are you going to do, Margaret?" cried Mrs. Dan, her eyes wide with amazement.

"I am going to marry the Son of the Prophet," she replied so decidedly that every one gasped. A moment later she was surrounded by a group of excited women, and Captain Perry was calling the "jackies" forward in a voice of thunder.

Brewster pushed his way to her side, his face as white as death.

"This isn't a joke, Peggy," he cried. "Go below and I'll get rid of the sheik."

Just then the burly Algerian asserted himself. He did not like the way in which his adored one was being handled by the "whote dogs," and with two spearmen he rushed up to Brewster, jabbering angrily.

"Stand back, you idiot, or I'll punch you head off," said Brewster, with sudden emphasis.

It was not until this moment that Peggy realized that there might be a serious side to the little farce she and Mary had decided to play for the punishment of Brewster. Terror suddenly took the place of mirth, and she clung frantically to Monty's arm.

"I was joking, Monty, only joking," she cried. "Oh, what have I done?"

"It's my fault," he exclaimed, "but I'll take care of you, never fear."

"Stand aside!" roared the sheik threateningly.

The situation was ominous. Frightened as they were the women could not flee, but stood petrified. Sailors eagerly swarmed to the deck.

"Get off this boat," said Monty, ominously calm, to the interpreter, "or we'll pitch you and your whole mob into the sea."

"Keep cool! Keep cool!" cried "Subway" Smith quickly. He stepped between Brewster and the angry suitor, and that action alone prevented serious trouble. While he parleyed with the sheik Mrs. DeMille hurried Peggy to a safe place below deck, and they were followed by a flock of shivering women. Poor Peggy was almost in tears and the piteous glances she threw at Brewster when he stepped between her and the impetuous sheik, who had started to follow, struck deep into his heart and made him ready to fight to the death for her.

It took nearly an hour to convince the Algerian that Peggy had misunderstood him and that American women were not to be wooed after the African fashion. He finally departed with his entire train, thoroughly dissatisfied and in high dudgeon. At first he threatened to take her by force then he agreed to give her another day in which to make up her mind to go with him peaceably, and again he concluded that a bird in the hand was worth two in the bush.

Brewster stood gloomily on the outside of the excited group glowering upon the ugly suitor. Cooler heads had relegated him to this place of security during the diplomatic contest. The sheik's threats of vengeance were direful. He swore by somebody's beard that he would bring ten thousand men to establish his claim by force. His intense desire to fight for her then and there was quelled by Captain Perry's detachment of six lusty sailors, whose big bare fists were shaken vigorously under a few startled noses. It took all the fight out of the sheik and his train. Three retainers fell into the sea while trying to retreat as far as possible from danger.

Mohammed departed with the irate declaration that he would come another day and that the whole world would tremble at his approach. Disgusted with himself and afraid to meet the eyes of the other men, Brewster went below in search of Peggy. He took time to comfort the anxious women who crowded about him and then asked for Miss Gray. She was in her stateroom and would not come forth. When he knocked at the door a dismal, troubled voice from within told him to go away.

"Come out, Peggy; it's all over," he called.

"Please go away, Monty," she said.

"What are you doing in there?" There was a long pause, and then came the pitiful little wail: "I am unpacking, please, sir."

That night Brewster entertained on board the yacht, several resident French and English acquaintances being the guests of honor. The story of the day was told by Mrs. Dan DeMille, commissioned especially for the duty. She painted the scene so vividly that the guests laughed with joy over the discomfiture of the sheik. Peggy and Brewster found themselves looking sheepishly at one another now and then in the course of the recital. She purposely had avoided him during the evening, but she had gamely endured the raillery that came from the rest of the party. If she was a bit pale it was not surprising. Now that it was over the whole affair appalled her more than she could have suspected. When several of the guests of the evening soberly announced that Mohammed was a dangerous man and even an object of worry to the government she felt a strange catch in her throat and her now mirthless eyes turned instinctively to Brewster, who, it seemed, was the sheik's special object of aversion.

The next day she and Monty talked it over. The penitence of both was beautiful to behold. Each denied the other the privilege of assuming all the blame and both were so happy that Mohammed was little more than a preposition in their conversation so far as prominence was concerned. But all day long the harbor was full of fisher boats, and at nightfall they still were lolling about, sinister, restless, mysterious like purposeless buzzards. And the dark men on board were taking up no fish, neither were they minding the nets that lay dry and folded in the bottom of their boats.

Far into the night there was revelry on board the "Flitter," more guests having come out from the city. The dark hours before the dawn of day had arrived before they put off for shore, but the fisher boats still were bobbing about in the black waters of the harbor. The lights gradually disappeared from the port-holes of the yacht, and the tired watch was about to be relieved. Monty Brewster and Peggy remained on deck after the guests had gone over the side of the vessel. They were leaning over the rail aft listening to the jovial voices of the visitors as they grew fainter and fainter in the distance. The lights of the town were few, but they could plainly be seen from the offing.

"Are you tired, Peggy?" asked Brewster, with a touch of tenderness. Somehow of late he had often felt a strange desire to take her in his arms, and now it was strong upon him. She was very near, and there was a drooping weariness in her attitude which seemed to demand protection.

"I have a queer feeling that something awful is going to happen tonight, Monty," she answered, trouble in her soft voice.

"You're nervous, that's all," he said, "and you should get to sleep. Good-night." Their hands touched in the darkness, and the thrill that went over him told a truth of which he had been only vaguely conscious. The power of it made him exultant. Yet when he thought of her and her too quiet affection for him it left him despondent.

Something bumped against the side of the ship and a grating sound followed. Then came other gentle thuds combined with the soft swish of water disturbed. Peggy and Brewster were on the point of going below when their attention was caught by these strange sounds.

"What is it?" she asked as they paused irresolutely. He strode to the rail, the girl following close behind. Three sharp little whistles came from above and behind them, but before they had time even to speculate as to their meaning the result was in evidence.

Over the sides of the ship came shadowy forms as if by magic; at their backs panther-like bodies dropped to the deck with stealthy thuds, as if coming from the inky sky above. There was an instant of dreadful calm and then the crisis. A dozen sinewy forms hurled themselves upon Brewster, who, taken completely by surprise, was thrown to the deck in an instant, his attempt to cry out for help being checked by heavy hands. Peggy's scream was cut off as quickly, and paralyzed by terror, she felt herself engulfed in strong arms and smothered into silence. It all happened so quickly that there was no chance to give the alarm, no opportunity to resist.

Brewster felt himself lifted bodily, and then there was the sensation of falling. He struck something forcibly with all his weight and fell back with a crash to the deck. Afterward he found that the effort to throw him overboard had failed only because his assailants in their haste had hurled him against an unseen stanchion. Peggy was borne forward and lowered swiftly into arms that deposited her roughly upon something hard. There was a rocking motion, the sudden splash of oars, and then she knew no more.

The invaders had planned with a craftiness and patience that deserved success. For hours they had waited, silently, watchfully, and with deadly assurance. How they crept up to the "Flitter" in such numbers and how the more daring came aboard long before the blow was struck, no one ever explained. So quickly and so accurately was the abduction performed that the boats were well clear of the yacht before alarm was given by one of the watch who had been overlooked in the careful assault.

Sleepy sailors rushed on deck with a promptness that was amazing. Very quickly they had found and unbound Brewster, carried a couple of wounded shipmates below and had Captain Perry in his pajamas on deck to take command.

"The searchlight!" cried Brewster frantically. "The devils have stolen Miss Gray."

While swift hands were lowering the boats for the chase others were carrying firearms on deck. The searchlight threw its mighty white arm out over the water before many seconds had passed, and eager eyes were looking for the boats of the pillagers. The Arabs had reckoned without the searchlight. Their fierce exultation died suddenly when the mysterious streak of light shot into the sky and then swept down upon the sea, hunting them out of the darkness like a great and relentless eye.

The "Flitter's boats were in the water and manned by sturdy oarsmen before the glad cry went up that the robber fleet had been discovered. They were so near the yacht that it was evident the dusky tribesmen were poor oarsmen. In the clear light from the ship's deck they could be seen paddling wildly, their white robes fluttering as though inspired by fear. There were four boats, all of them crowded to the gunwales.

"Keep the light on them, captain," shouted Monty from below. Try to pick out the boat that has Miss Gray on board. Pull away, boys! This means a hundred dollars to every one of you—yes, a thousand if we have to fight for her!"

"Kill every blasted one of them, Mr. Brewster," roared the captain, who had retired behind a boat when he became aware of the presence of women on deck.

Three boats shot away from the side of the yacht, Brewster and Joe Bragdon in the first, both armed with rifles.

"Let's take a shot at 'em," cried a sailor who stood in the stern with his finger on a trigger.

"Don't do that! We don't know what boat holds Peggy," commanded Brewster. "Keep cool, boys, and be ready to scrap if we have to." He was half mad with fear and anxiety, and he was determined to exterminate the bands of robbers if harm came to the girl in their power.

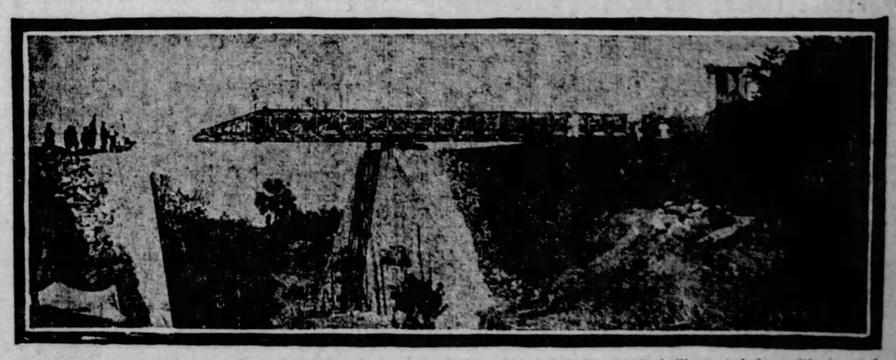
"She's in the second boat," came the cry from the yacht, and the searchlight was kept on that particular object almost to the exclusion of the others. But Captain Perry saw the wisdom of keeping all of them clearly located in order to prevent trickery.

Brewster's brawny sailor boys came up like greyhounds, cheering as they dashed among the boats of the fugitives. Three or four shots were fired into the air by the zealous American lads, and there were loud cries from the Arabs as

Remarkable Hose Carriage Contest.

Here is, perhaps, the most novel of racing contests. In times gone by the volunteer fire companies depended for their reputations largely on the speed they could make in hauling their apparatus to fires. The accompanying illustration shows a modern fire hose racing team in Pennsylvania about to start on a race. The apparatus, it will be seen, is mounted on bicycle wheels, and by leaving off the hose has been made as light as possible.

Latest Plan for Bridging a Chasm.



There are many ways of building a bridge across a chasm of any kind, but the method illustrated herewith is probably the latest, and apparently, one of the most convenient. The first strand of the bridge across the Niagara river was floated over by a kite. Here is a much simpler and more certain method of accomplishing the same work. The bridge, a steel structure, is first built upon one side of the chasm, mounted on rollers. The span is practically completed in this position. When it is finished, a stout cable or so is attached to one end and the steel span is hauled to the support on the opposite side of the chasm. An immense amount of labor, it may be seen, is thereby saved.

they veered off panic-stricken. Monty's boat was now in the path of light and not far behind the one which held Peggy. He was standing in the bow.

"Take care of the others!" he called back to his followers. "We'll go after the leaders."

The response from behind was a cheer, a half dozen shots, and some of the most joyous profanity that ever fell from the lips of American sailors, mingled with shrieks from the boats they were to "take care of."

"Stop!" Brewster shouted to the Arabs. "Stop, or we'll kill every one of you!" His boat was not more than fifty feet from the other.

Suddenly a tall, white robed figure arose in the middle of the Egyptian craft, and a moment later the pursuers saw Peggy's form passed up to him. She was instantly clasped by one of his long arms, and the other was lifted high above her. A gleaming knife was held in the upraised hand.

"Fire on us if you dare!" came in French from the tall Arab. "Dog of an American, she shall die if you come near her.

(To be Continued.)

HORSESHOE LUCK.

Superstitions Concerning the Crescents of Iron Are All but Universal.

The origin of belief in "horseshoe luck" is so ancient that its origin never has been determined with certainty, and no superstition is more universal, says the Chicago Chronicle. Ever since horses began to wear shoes those crescents of iron have been accounted lucky emblems of all peoples, races and nations that have been acquainted with their use.

The Chinese, for instance, say they nail them up over their doors as a charm against evil spirits because of the close resemblance in shape between them and the arched body of the sacred snake, Nagandra, one of their principal deities.

Ask a Turkish Mohammedan for information on the subject and he will tell you that it is because they are in form like a crescent, the sacred emblem of Islam.

A Polish Jew will explain that at the Passover the blood sprinkled upon the lintel and doorsteps, in the manner directed by their ritual, forms the chief points of an arch; hence, obviously, the value or arch-shaped talismans such as horseshoes are.

The stolid and unimaginative Russian peasant, on the other hand, maintains that the luck associated with the horseshoe is chiefly due to the metal, irrespective of its shape, iron being traditionally a charm wherewith to nullify the malevolent designs of evil spirits and goblins.

Very different is the story by which the Irishman seeks to account for his liking for the same talismanic symbol. The name "Ironclad," or "Ireland," he will tell you, originated as follows:

The whole Island was once submerged in the sea, out of which it rose only once in eleven years, and then only for a short time. Many attempts had been made to break the spell and induce the country to remain permanently above the waters, but all were in vain until one day a daring adventurer threw a horseshoe from a boat on the topmost peak of Wicklow mountains, just as they were disappearing beneath the waves. Then, at last, was the ban removed. The Emerald Isle began forthwith to rise again from the ocean depths, into which it had sunk. And it has been dry land—more or less—ever since.

In England, up to comparatively recent times, horseshoes were extensively used almost everywhere as anti-witch charms, and the custom is not even yet an extinct one. No witch, it used to be said, could enter a building over the door of which a horseshoe—or, better still, three horseshoes—had been affixed, prongs downward.

The origin of this particular belief is referable to the old legend of St. Dunstan. The versatile English ecclesiastic was a skilled farrier, and one day while at work in his forge the Evil One entered in disguise and requested Dunstan to shoe his "single hoof." The saint, although he at once recognized his malign customer, acceded, but caused him so much pain during the operation that Satan begged him to desist. This Dunstan did, but only after he had made the Evil One promise that neither he nor any of the lesser spirits, his servants, would ever molest the inmates of a house where a horseshoe was displayed.

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SERVIAN ORB.

We know well the orb of night and the orb of day, but few of us have even a nodding acquaintance with a royal orb. Herewith is shown one, that of Servia, which, though it is not a very big kingdom, still has an orb as big as any of its

powerful neighbors. To see the orb in all its glory one must have witnessed the recent coronation. The great mass of common people had a chance to gaze upon it, as the king, with the heavy crown upon his head, rode in regal pomp through the streets of Belgrade.

The Things Necessary.

Motorist—Are all the tools in the tool chest?
Valet—Yes, sir.
Motorist—Are all the cushions and lap robes in the tonneau?
Valet—Yes, sir.
Motorist—Is the tank full of gasoline?
Valet—Yes, sir.
Motorist—Have you brought down all our goggles?
Valet—Yes, sir.
Motorist—Well, run up to my room and bring the roll of bills out of the top bureau drawer so that we will have enough money to pay our fines. Then we shall be ready to start.—Town Topics.

Vanity.

The turkey is admired of men,
His vanity's complete;
He thinks it's 'cause he's pretty, when
It's 'cause he's good to eat.
—Washington Star.

MY GIRL

ELIZABETH AYERS. No. IX.

Busy times, busy times, all the week getting ready for Christmas and the wedding. That wedding is going to be Christmas eve and at our house. I knew it. I knew all along what My Girl was planning in her mind. And generally, what she plans happens.

Jimmy and I are not in it. We don't know we're living, we're so cast out, scorned and despised. Jimmy's in better luck than I am, because he knows they can't have the wedding unless he's in it. I think it makes him chesty.

"Other men have been married before." I remind him out of my experience when I see his head getting too large for his hat.

The truth is, just now, I amount to less than thirty cents in the estimation of My Girl, Mary and the Little Mother. I have to stamp on the floor of the porch before I'm permitted to enter my own home, and then when I finally break in, there are the three of them sitting around, looking innocent and acting as if nothing was doing.

"Why, Teddy," says My Girl, pretending to be surprised, "is that you? How do you happen to be home so early?"

I don't like it. Neither does our dog Micky. He's finding out he's not the whole thing, and it makes him green and yellow with melancholy. He wants to be somebody's darling. So do I.

Mary is staying at Jimmy's house with the Little Mother. She and Jimmy are to live there after they are married, meantime, Mary and the Little Mother seem to be living with us, they and My Girl have so much to talk over. I wonder how it would be if we were going to have a stylish wedding. In that case it is not likely I should be allowed to come home at all. Micky and I should have to go out and hunt a home for the friendless.

I don't suppose My Girl has the least idea how she is neglecting me. I think she'll feel sorry when she sees that set of furs I bought for her Christmas. I've heard somewhere, that married life is filled with disappointments. Mine have commenced sooner than I expected.

They're making Mary's wedding dress at our house, the three of them together. I don't see why it is necessary for Mary to have a new dress to be married in when My Girl didn't. There couldn't have been a prettier bride than My Girl was, and she never said a word about having anything new for the event. I wonder if she was wishing she could. I never thought of it before. Maybe she missed it and maybe she's putting into Mary's wedding what she couldn't have in her own.

I guess I'll let her have all of the fun out of that wedding she wants, and I'll take a back seat and look happy until it is over. I believe that down in her heart My Girl wished for a little fuss and feathers at her own wedding, and now she never can have them as it is not likely to occur again.

And to think My Girl never said a word! You would have thought from her Mrs. Vanderbilt manner that our wedding was the grandest thing that ever happened, and it was nothing at all. Just we two and the parson, and the parson's wife and daughter for the witnesses. It was all out and over in less than ten minutes, and the most that I thought about it was that My Girl was mine forever. I wonder what she thought. Sometimes when you look back at a thing in the past you see another side to the question, and you don't always see yourself as you saw yourself at the time that comes back to your memory.

I believe My Girl's been keeping things from me, always trying to be and do what she thought I wanted—she can do exactly as she pleases about that wedding so long as it makes her happy.

It's a good thing for a man to sit down and have a think about his wife once in a while; he don't see himself such a shining example. I believe I'll try to give Jimmy a few pointers. Probably he wouldn't understand if I did. There are some things you can't tell people, they have to find out for themselves. Anyway, Jimmy's in a blue haze now, and is blinded with his own importance. He doesn't know he feels that way, but how can he help it when his girl and the Little Mother are working themselves to frazzles to make him happy, even if they are not paying him particular attention just at present.

Taking the living picture as a whole, we're a group you might label "a scene from a happy home," with My Girl as the guardian angel.

I can't quite tell you how I feel about My Girl, only it's getting more so every day.

The other night, before I'd stopped to think thoughts, I went home grumpy. I'd been going to the office several evenings in the week, and I thought My Girl was taking it too easily. Of course, I didn't want her to sit down and weep, but I thought she needn't be quite so chirky, even if a wedding and Christmas were coming.

"Must you really go to the office to night, Teddy?" she'd say. "It seems to me you're straying pretty often from your own fireside. Don't stay any later than you must," she'd tell me.

She was so cheerful and chirpy about it, I began to think she didn't care, and would rather have me out nights than not. I got offended.

"I suppose I'm an old story now," I snapped out.

My Girl's eyes were full of sparkle, and she laughed.

"Well, Teddy," she said, "you're not exactly the latest novel."

And that's all I got.

What I expected was that My Girl would come to me as she had always done before when I acted huffy, and put her arms around my neck with that "Why, Teddy," of her's that makes you feel that you and the world are all right Especially you.

"Run along, little boy, run along," she told me instead, when I kept hanging around waiting for comfort. "Remember when you get home to make a noise at the door before you come in."

She looked so sweet when she blew me a kiss from the tips of her fingers, that I forgot I was an injured husband, and went to get it.

"Nice boy, Teddy," she said, and snuggled her face in my neck.

I went away feeling better.

It was after eleven o'clock before I was home, and I thought maybe by that time My Girl would be getting anxious because I was out so late. There was no signs of her coming to meet me, and old Mr. Grumps happened along and jumped on my shoulder. Purposely, I didn't make any noise when I opened the door, and I saw My Girl before she saw me. She was sitting in the parlor, humming a happy, little home song, and sewing on something. I took it for granted it was Mary's wedding dress, and old Grumps gave me another kick in the collar.

The minute My Girl knew I was there, she rolled up her work like a flash and made a rush out of the room.

"Why didn't you make a noise at the door before you came in?" she called "I didn't expect you home so soon."

"Well," I thought, "that's a nice way to greet me."

Micky was lying in front of the grate toasting his toes. I made him move over just to show my authority. He couldn't have acted more abused if I'd kicked him around the block. I felt like the day before yesterday. Just then My Girl came in looking like a sunny morning.

"Teddy," she said, "I'm awfully glad you're here, though you shouldn't come home so suddenly at Christmas time."

Everything got bright again, and I wanted more.

"Do you honestly miss me when I'm away evenings?" I asked her, trying to look sad when I felt I had a smile on my face that was tickling my ears.

Then I got what I wanted. My Girl came where she belonged, and she came in a hurry.

"Why, Teddy," she said; "why Teddy!"

Of course that brute Micky had to put in his bark and join the family circle.

Don't we have great times at our house? What with the wedding and Christmas coming, we're going to see joy in a bunch.

My Girl says, "Christmas is so lovely when there are two like us to love and cherish."

ENEMY OF WHALES.

Strange Creature Said to Exist in Alaskan Waters.

While operating a fishery in Admiralty Island, Alaska, last summer, my attention and the attention of the fishing crew was almost daily attracted to a large marine creature that would appear in the main channel of Seymour canal and our immediate vicinity. There are large numbers of whales of the species rorqual there, and the monster seemed to be their natural enemy. The whales generally travel in schools, and while at the surface to blow one would be singled out and attacked by the fish, and a battle was soon in order.

It is the nature of the rorqual to make three blows at intervals of from two to three minutes each, and then sound deep and stay beneath the surface for thirty or forty minutes. As a whale would come to the surface, there would appear, always at the whale's right side and just about where his head would connect with the body, a great, long tail or fin, "judged by five fishermen and a number of Indians, after seeing it about fifteen times at various distances," to be about twenty-four feet long, two and one-half feet wide, at the end, and tapering down to the water, where it seemed to be about 18 inches in diameter, looking very much like the blade of the fan of an old-fashioned Dutch windmill.

The great club was used on the back of the unfortunate whale in such a manner that it was a wonder to me that every whale attacked was not instantly killed. Its operator seemed to have perfect control of its movements, and would bend it back till the end would touch the water forming a horseshoe loop, then with a sweep it would be straightened and brought over and down on the back of the whale with a whack that could be heard for several miles. If the whale was fortunate enough to submerge itself before the blows came, the spray would fly for a distance of a hundred feet from the effect of the stroke, making a report as loud as a yacht's signal gun.

What seemed most remarkable to me was that, no matter which way the attacked whale went, or how fast (the usual speed is about fourteen knots) that great club would follow right along by its side, and deliver those tremendous blows at intervals of about for or five seconds. It would always get in from three to five blows at each of the three times the whale would come to the surface to blow. The whale would generally rid itself of the enemy when it took its deep sound, especially if the water was forty fathoms or more deep. During the day the attack was always off shore, but at night the whales would be attacked in the bay and within four hundred yards of the fishery.

I do not know of any whales being killed, but there were several that had great holes and sores on their backs. Questioning the Indians about it, I was told that there was only one, that it had been there for many years, and that it once attacked an Indian canoe, and with one stroke of the great club smashed the canoe into splinters, killing and drowning several of its occupants.—Forest and Stream.

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F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN,
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Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Caught in His Own Trap.

They were strolling up Central avenue looking as happy as true lovers really can look. It was Saturday night and Rudolf had his weekly stipend in his inside pocket. It was while passing a darkened grocery that his good nature asserted itself in the following manner:

"Dearest, if yonder grocery was only open I would willingly purchase some mixed nuts and we could sit by your fireside tomorrow and crack them."

"Don't let that worry you, Rudolf," she replied. "There's a candy store across the street. You can buy me some caramels and you won't have to crack them."

And Roody had to make good.—Albany Journal.

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I do not ask any sufferer to take my unsupported word for this, so will send you some of the medicine free. If you will send me your name and address I will mail you a trial package absolutely free, which will show you that you can be cured. Do not suffer another day but just sit down and write me for it right now.

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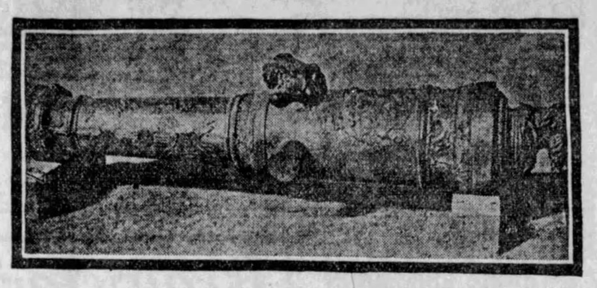
Castle Old in Story.

Some one has said that America would be perfect if it only possessed old castles. The observer was not an Englishman, but an Anglomaniac, born in Chattahoochee. In England many picturesque castles lend a romantic aspect to various districts and none is so effective an arrangement as Hastings Castle, whose history tells of many thrilling nights and days. Like an obsolete gun in which the birds make a nesting place, the martial glory of the place is gone forever and its ruins only make a picturesque place for sightseers.

Historic Spanish Cannon.



In these days of high powered guns that can throw a shell several miles these bronze cannon, which were considered exceedingly formidable in their day, must sink to the peaceful value of mere ornaments. They are that and more, too, for as an example of the artificer's art in bronze they have a high value. They were made by Cosimo Cenni, whose name, perhaps, is unknown in the science of war, but who has unimpeachable artistic repute. So it is that in the National museum at Florence this work of his is displayed.

GARDENS KEPT BY GERMAN WOMEN

Attractive Mingling of Flowers, Fruits and Vegetebles.

Most American travelers in Germany go to the principal cities, see as much sights of art, architecture and scenery as possible and return without having a chance to stop on the waysides and learn of the real home life of the people, says The American Agriculturist. No existing guidebooks lead to such roads. Mecklenburg-Schwerin, with its little sister state, Strelitz, is only twenty-eight German miles long and fourteen broad, but it is one of the most fertile agricultural districts existing. The finest breeds of farm animals, the richest crops of grain, fruit and grass are raised here. Husbandry in all its branches is studied from long experiences, and when we consider that all farm land has been for centuries under cultivation, with no loss of productiveness, we see that there must be some reason and effort which keeps it up to so high a standard.

Every family has a garden and the work in it is done exclusively by women. In the villages, where a minister resides, who always has a big farm to cultivate as his support, his wife is the leading spirit in the garden. In other places, perhaps the wife of the schoolmaster or forester takes the lead. Often there is a friendly contest to see who shall have the first peas and carrots for the table; of course, everything grows in open air. On Whitsunday all try to have the first lettuce, and, if possible, a young chicken or pigeon for dinner. Generally the garden is close to the house; when surrounded by a stone fence, the main path runs in the middle. If the green hedge incloses it, the path runs all around next to it, because close to the hedge nothing will grow. All beds are laid out in straight lines, no turf whatever. Garden land may not be wasted and grass grows in the meadows. Along the main walk on both sides are beds about five feet wide called rabbats. At each end is generally a clump of lilacs or cherries. Rose, currant and gooseberry bushes are planted at intervals in the middle of these beds, and are trained to resemble little trees. This leaves room for diverse perennial flowers underneath. Gooseberries grow to excellent size and flavor. For Easter they have the first chives and as the season advances each variety, as it matures, is greeted with delight and thankfulness by the family. Asparagus is one of their favorite vegetables. It is grown in raised beds, and cut three times daily for fear that the heads of it turn blue or green when exposed to the sun. They like it white. Green, long shoots are not eaten. Beans they have, but they prefer long, very fleshy pods of Lima, as the latter is almost unknown, as are also sweetcorn and tomatoes, except at the rich domains, where gardeners are employed. Of peas they have, besides other kinds, very large pod bearing, called "sugar peas," which are cooked whole, like string beans.

Parsley is raised in two distinct varieties, the curly for decorating, the plain for its roots, which are used in soups. Of celery, the turnip rooted is only known and prepared, when cooked, for salad and soup. An immense amount of different sweet herbs, for use in the household, always find a place. Caraway seed is cut twice during the season. The broad bean is grown in single rows between the potatoes. Pear, plum and apple trees are distributed all over the farm in single specimens. Orchards of one kind are seldom found. Peaches, apricots and grapes are grown on trellises in some protected spot, or on the south side of a house or barn. Onions, carrots, turnips and similar crops are sowed broadcast on the beds; children and old women do the weeding. Particular stress is laid on such vegetables as can be preserved for the winter, either in manure, natural state or dried. Nothing is wasted; even the rose leaves are gathered, before dropping, and exchanged at the drug store for something necessary. Privet hedges are very much valued, and at a certain time a long blue and green fly appears, which feeds on the leaves. It is the Spanish fly; the children are eager to pick them off and sell them; they are used for making fly blisters. The gardens of the more wealthy people and noblemen's estates are laid out in English style, with curved walks and the turf dotted with beautiful flower beds. The women are all good housekeepers, take a personal interest in all matters, oversee the garden, and help, often, to gather the vegetables for dinner. All summer, in fair weather, before and after school hours, women, accompanied by their servant girls and children, go with little handbaskets or wagons containing a lunch a-gardening. They work, enjoy outdoor life, fresh air and healthy recreation.

THE ANT AND THE ELEPHANT

In the jungle, jungle, jingle,
Where the animals commingle,
Came an Elephant, whose single
Aim was dignified repose;
Till an Ant, in accents painful,
Hailed the Elephant disdainful,
"Sir, excuse my comments plain-ful,
But you're standing on my toes!"

But the tower of brute creation,
At this base insinuation
(Undisturbed his contemplation)
Only winked and flopped his ear;
Quoth the Ant, in mighty dudgeon,
"Ouch! you hurt! lift up your bludgeon
From my foot, you hulking gudgeon—
Are you deaf, or don't your hear?"

Said the Elephant, benighted,
"Tut tut, child! don't get excited—
By and by I'll be dee-lighted
To remove this groundwork fat;
All these demonstrations ant-ic,
Make me positively frantic."
Then he placed one toe gigantic
On the Ant—and squashed him flat.

Here's a moral I would tender
Unto you, small Retail spender;
When a Trust steps on your slender
Little tootsie, don't you squeal;
Better offer no resistance
Or the Trust, at such insistence,
Will discover your existence
And remove you—with his heel.
— Wallace Irwin in New York Globe.

SIGNS OF LONG LIFE.

The woman who desires long life must have eyes round and wide, rather than long and narrow, and if they are brown or hazel life will be longer than if they be black or violet.

The brown must be ample and slope back slightly from an absolute perpendicular. The head must be wide behind and over the ears.

The brow must be wide and full and well set and the chin square and firm.

The nose must be wide and full through its whole length and have open, easy dilating nostrils. This indicates a good heart and good lungs.

If the orifice of the ear is low, indicating a deeply seated brain, there is a better chance of long life.

The woman who appears taller in proportion when sitting down than when standing has a good chance to live long. If the body is long in proportion to the limbs, the heart, lungs and digestive organs are large.—Chicago News.

NATURE'S FREAKS IN FRUITS

Seedlessness of Bananas and Thorniness of Some Oranges Are Mysteries.

The banana is seedless, or nearly so, and has been for centuries, though nobody knows why. It is propagated by suckers, and possibly had no seeds when it was first found in its wild state. The banana is a modified berry. Cutting the fruit through the middle, you will sometimes see a few brown spots, which are the rudimentary seeds. Occasionally the banana does actually produce a few seeds.

The pineapple is seedless, being propagated likewise from suckers and from slips. The egg plant, which is a fruit, botanically speaking, is occasionally seedless. This plant is able to produce developed fruit whether the blossom is fertilized or not. Horticulturists are endeavoring at the same time to rid fruit plants of thorns. Some oranges and lemons are very thorny—for example, the highpriced king orange, which is the best of the mandarins. It is rarely seen in this market. The first trees were brought to the United States from Cochin China.

In Florida its thorniness has been reduced by selecting buds from the branches with the fewest thorns. Thorns are objectionable because they puncture the oranges and lemons when the branches are blown about by the wind. Efforts are being made to get rid of the thorns on raspberry and blackberry plants, simply for convenience in picking the fruit. The thorns are meant by nature to protect the plant from animals. Cultivators select those plants which happen to be thornless or nearly so.

DECORATION OF FAMOUS TOMB

Alexander's tomb surpasses in magnificence that of any of the other great conquerors. It has high value from a decorative and artistic standpoint, and this

picture shows a detail of the carving. The ashes of the great soldier have been scattered to the four winds, though his deeds are still told. The white marble of the receptacle which held his body is a most substantial link between that war smitten past and the present. It is evident that the best art of the time was given to the tomb of Alexander.

HE WANTED A CHANGE.

"Beef again," said the head of the house, discontentedly as the platter was passed before him. "Do you know, my dear, there are times when beef begins to pall on me?"

"We had lamb yesterday," said his wife, "and on Monday you know we had a roast loin of pork."

"Oh, I know. That's just it. Beef, mutton and pork, pork, mutton and beef. One monotonous round."

"You don't care for chicken."

"Oh, I get tired of chicken, that's all. What I would like is a little change."

"We had a rabbit stew last week. I thought you enjoyed that. If you like I'll have it again tomorrow."

"My dear," said the head of the house, "I don't see why you imagine that because I happen to eat something with a tolerable relish I can stand it seven days in the week. Let the rabbit rest for a while. Beef!"

"If I had known you wouldn't care for it I might have had some fish."

"You can't get any fish that has the right flavor after it has been packed and kept on ice."

"It's a pity that some new animal can't be invented for you," said the long-suffering housewife, rebelling. "I was reading the other day that they ate iguanas in South America and that the Digger Indians considered ants' eggs a delicacy."

"I don't think I am hard to satisfy," said the head of the family. "Perhaps I had no right to hint than an occasional variety in my diet would be—what is this?"

"What is which?" asked the lady, as he masticated slowly and analytically.

"This—this meat."

"It's venison steak. The red currant jelly is to the right of you."

"I suppose you think that's funny?" said the head of the house.—Chicago News.

DON'T READ THEIR POLICIES

"What the average purchaser of life insurance doesn't know about the thing he is purchasing would fill a good sized book printed with very narrow margins," says an insurance expert. "For instance, I talked not long since with a man who rancied he was insured for $10,000 on the 15-year endowment plan. That is, he thought he had to make payments for 15 years—which was true—and that at the end of that time he could get $10,000 in cash or take a part in cash and a part in paid-up insurance, which, as it turned out, was not true. The rate he was paying was so very low for what he said he was getting that I asked to see his policy, and when I looked at it I found, just as he might have found on a brief examination, that while he was insured for life, with only fifteen yearly payments, he could not get the $10,000, or any part of it, for a good many years more. No insurance company in the world will permit the fooling of a patron like this if it can help it, and yet to attribute such a mistaken idea to fraudulent misrepresentation on the part of an unworthy agent would not always be fair. Many men who take insurance, and especially those who do not decide to go in until they have looked at it a long time, go in finally with a rush. They don't give the agent time to tell them what they are getting, and often don't find out for years afterward. Another thing that many insured persons do not know is that a rebate on the first payment, arranged between the insured and the agent, sometimes renders the whole transaction invalid."—Philadelphia Record.

A Good Shot.

"Is your friend a good shot?"

"Yes," answered the sportsman, after some hesitation. "He never hits any game, but then he never hits any of the people in his hunting party, either."—Washington Star.

TRAIN VERSUS LIGHTNING

Flyer Beat at Every Stroke and Arrived Ahead of Time.

Returning from Chicago a few nights ago Del Valentine was on a fast train when it ran through a big storm. It was going so fast that it was always at the next mile post. "The train slid into the storm," he says, "and was passing out the opposite side when a zig-zag streak of lightning on the outer edge took a shy at the engine just for luck and to put a competitor out of business, probably. It was a miscalculation and hit the ground more than 200 feet to the rear, tearing up sand and gravel like a mad bull in a dry river bed. Before the train could yank its full length from under lightning again tried its luck, this time mad and spiteful and in a hurry. But the engineer had caught on and in a joking sort of way jerked the throttle open a little wider. The train was fairly flying this time, screaming and hissing, bellowing and blowing in defiance of wind, thunder, rain and lightning. Again she missed, though only by 50 feet or less this time. The passengers were getting scared a little, though they realized no ordinary lightning could drop down on the roof while the engineer was awake. But as the train tore from under the big cloud another streak tried its cunning. More agile than the rest, it caught in the coupling link on the rear of the hindmost car. There was red heat in a moment, sizzling, shrieks, and it sounded like cuss words all frightfully mixed up, and when the train pulled into the next station some jagged, dispirited, disjointed lightning dropped to the ground. The train went on seven minutes ahead of schedule on a six-minute run."—Kansas City Star.

HISTORIC CHAIR.

This chair, if its history were unknown, might be sold for a song in a second-hand auction shop. It is not a thing of beauty, nor yet is it made in the bizarre style that some folk love so much. It is not only second-hand, but "million foot," for it was a part of the old London Bridge, a wooden thing quite different from the structure of today. The old rhyme beginning "London Bridge is Falling Down," probably originated at the time the wood composing the chair was part of the bridge.

THE BULL'S-EYE.

They had been discussing some vexed public question.

"You hit the bull's eye!" cried one of them in approving of another's statement.

"Bull's eye," repeated a third. "Why is the target's bull's-eye so-called.

"Ahem! Ahem!" said the professor. "This is one of many instances in our language where words have gained a higher status than that with which they started and have been promoted from the slang dictionary to the dictionary of words of reputable and current use.

"Bull's-eye is found in the dictionary of 'The Canting Crew' in 1690 and was the vulgar word for the central ring of the target used as a mark for archers, which was colored differently from the other rings. This may have arisen from the ancient rounded shields, cut from ox hide and strengthened with a spike or central boss for this shield or target; hence target was often used as a mark itself.

"Then when sheet glass began to be manufactured the thickened part, where the tube had been attached, was called the bull's eye. Then this term was successively applied to a lens of glass, especially in a ship's side, to the lens of a lantern to the lantern itself and finally to the central boss of a target."—Philadelphia Press.

HE WAS TOO CLEVER.

Mr. Turveytop has, up to very recently, considered himself quite clever, and nothing so please him as to get the better of some unsuspecting person.

For a long time his wife had been in need of a new boa; and after hinting that her happiness would never be complete till she had one, he at last decided to gratify her desire. So he went into a shop and picked out a couple, one of which was cheap and the other very expensive.

Upon these he changed the price tickets, putting the cheap price mark on the expensive boa, and vice versa, and then took them home.

For a long time his wife pondered, and at last said:

"Now, dear, the expensive boa is a beauty, and it is really very good of you to allow me my choice. Some women would take it without a word, but really I don't think was can afford the more costly one, and, beside, I think the cheap one is more stylish, too. Why, what is the matter? Are you ill?"

But Mr. Turveytop had fled into the night, where unseen he could kick himself to his heart's content.—Chicago Journal.

A Candidate for Oblivion.

They tell this story of Judge Edwards, for long ordinary of Lee county:

A negro called on the judge one morning and said:

"I wish you, please, suh, gimme my license of fergitfulness."

"Why," said the judge, "what do you mean by that?"

"I means suh," explained the colored applicant, "I wants ter fergit de 'ooman dat you gimme a license ter git married ter las' year!"—Atlanta Constitution.

That One Was Enough.

They had been married six long months and the honeymon had evidently disappeared for keeps.

"I've only had one wish ungratified since our wedding day," she asked.

"And what is that?" he asked in a tone redolent with indifference.

"That I were single again," she replied.—Chicago News.

Renewal of An Old Sport.

Archery clubs for ladies are very common at present in Europe. The sport, which was once very popular and later fell into disuse, has lately been revived with great enthusiasm. The tournaments held by the clubs were quite a factor in the fashionable set throughout England last season. In some of these contests more than 20 targets were employed.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answer.

The following questions are submitted to readers to answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

Can any of The Blade readers tell me why my hens don't lay? I feed meal or middlings and bran, scalded, in the morning, using red pepper once in a while, also bone ground fine. Afternoons I feed oats, corn or screenings. They have plenty of milk and fresh water, also good warm pens. I cut apples for them every day. They are pullets and yearlings, but I do not get an egg—R., Springville, N. Y.

I have recently received a shipment of Angora goats. They are very thin in flesh and I find that they are covered with lice, resembling cattle lice. Will some one tell me how to get rid of the lice before the females drop their kids?—O. T., Shickshinny, Pa.

There is an insect which has become very destructive to the apple crop in this country. It makes its appearance soon after the bloom falls off, and is found upon the young growth, and the underside of the leaves, and frequently crawls over the young fruit. The leaves soon begin to crisp up as though they had been scalded and the fruit becomes knotty and never matures. These destroyers become very numerous. Some are purple and some a green color, and resemble lice. Will some Blade fruit grower please give its proper name, and give formula of some mixture that will destroy them, and the proper time to be applied to be most effective. Have tried Bordeaux mixture and paris green without any effect.—T. Cubana, W. Va.

Will some one familiar with horses and their diseases help me with their experience? Three years ago, while driving, my horse commenced to shake his head, sometimes holding it to one side, or down low, and then raising it high. This he does only in cold weather. The trouble seems to affect his forehead. He is in good flesh, and, except for this one trouble, is in apparent good health. Veterinary books have been of no service to me in determining the trouble or in providing a remedy.—E., Claremont, Va.

Can one of your readers tell me what is wrong with this chicken? I was dressing young chickens, three months old, and found one much lighter than the others. When opened, the heart and lungs were in a good conditon, the liver a trifle small and rather dark colored, the gizzard very large, and when opened showed a small hole through both linings, about the size of a shot. A little blood came out when it was pressed, and the wall seemed soft at that place. Carefully cutting it open I found a hole about three-fourths of an inch long and one-quarter of an inch wide in the widest place, almost filled by what at first looked like a clot of blood, but proved to be a hard substance like the wall of the gizzard, very hard in the middle and with a hollow as large as a pin through it. The hollow was of a greenish color. The hollow which held it was large enough so it nowhere touched the wall of the gizzard, but seemed to be surrounded by thin, dark blood. There was no connection between this substance and the gizzard. The blood was on all sides. Is it a cancer? Will it affect the rest of the flock? Is it inherited? Has anyone else seen anything like it?—M., Reed City, Mich.

Seedless Apples.

Editor Farmstead:—Noted in a daily Blade clipping printed in the weekly editon of November 30, regarding a Toledo capitalist forming a company to grow a new fruit—seedless apples.

Fifteen years ago, in Indiana county, Pennsylvania, our neighbors, several of them, too, all had apple trees bearing seedles apples, and almost twenty-five yars ago.

Mr. Alexander Jewart, of Plumville, and David S. Potts, of the same place, propagated seedless apples, and every farmer had his seedless apples. They are common as pears or plums in that section.—W., Avonmore, Pa.

Curing Meat.

Editor Farmstead:—Seeing a recipe for curing beef in this week's paper, thought I would write and tell you that there must be some mistake before any of your readers should lose a lot of beef. At the rate of three pounds of saltpeter to one hundred pounds of meat would be the same as thirty pounds for one thousand of meat and anyone who has ever put up meat knows that one pound of saltpeter is enough for one thousand pounds of pork, and beef takes less. An ounce and one-half to the hundred would be a great quantity. I hope you can make the mistake right before your readers lose confidence in using the printed recipes. I haven't written this for publication for I am not a writer for the papers, but you can use as much as you think will be of benefit in your next issue. I am an old subscriber to your paper and couldn't do very well without it.—S., White Pigeon, Michigan.

Rings on Horns.

Editor Farmstead:—In regard to the wrinkles or rings on the horns of cattle, W., of Mt. Auburn, Ill., is right. It could not be as A., of Ceylon, Minn., thought, as a steer has just as many rings as a cow. I have been handling cattle twenty years and have found the horns an infallible rule for telling their age.—R., Orofino, Idaho.

Water for Cabbage.

Editor Farmstead:—Tell W., of Muscatine, Iowa, to use water, nearly boiling hot, on his cabbage plants. It will kill all the worms and larvae and will be good for the cabbage.—R., Orofino, Idaho.

For Curing Beef.

Editor Farmstead:—Please tell C., of Friendsville, Tenn., that this is a thoroughly tried formula for curing beef: For 100 pounds of beef take 7 pounds of fine salt, 6 pounds of sugar, 6 ounces of saleratus, 1 ounce saltpeter, 1 tablespoonful of cayenne pepper, to be put on dry, will make brine. In about 24 hours the large bones should be removed from the beef, as they take room and are not good to eat.—F., Oretown, Ore.

For Cabbage Worms.

Editor Farmstead:—Here is an answer to a question asked Dec. 8 about cabbage worms, by W., Muscatine, Iowa: As soon as worms appear sprinkle liberally with wheat bran, or middlings are better, while the dew is on, and every time after a rain repeat. I have tried it for three years past successfully. A simple remedy and sure.—C., Weston, O.

Bleaching Celery Plants.

Editor Farmstead:—To W., of Corvallis, Ore.: Keep hilling the dirt against the stalks to the top leaves as they grow; use sufficient cow manure to force growth. My experience.—T., Port Angeles, Wash.

Nursery Frauds.

Editor Farmstead:—Your warning against fraud came too late to save the people of this county. Two years ago last spring a man canvassed this county in the interest of the nursery of that firm of Greenfield, Ind. He professed to be authorized to plant orchards as an advertisement. Said he would set the trees and care for them for three years, thus insuring an orchard of living trees, the farmer to pay $28 per hundred for trees. Many farmers ordered trees, and had to pay for them, but no trees were ever set. One man left the country, and another collected the bills, declaring he was not responsible for the former's contracts. Many of the victims protested, but could get no satisfaction.—M., Greenville, Ind.

Milkweed for Warts.

Editor Farmstead:—Tell N., of Olivet, Iowa, that the milk from milkweed, the kind that makes the large pods, is a certain cure for warts on man or animal. Simply anoint with this milk every day. I cured one on my horse after trying every other remedy that I had ever heard of. This is the wrong time of year for this cure but the cure is all right.—M., Greencastle, Ind.

The Chicago Show.

The ninth annual exhibition of the National Fanciers and Breeders' association will be held at Chicago January 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, 1905. For entry blanks and information address Fred L. Kinner, room 500, 325 Dearborn street, Chicago.

The Best Tree Stocks.

Editor Farmstead: How to secure the best trees is a question. The roots used for grafting are not always from seeds taken from the best of seedling apples, or other varieties of known hardiness, vigor and productiveness. The seed is taken too often indiscriminately from all kinds of fruit. It should be taken from good healthy fruit, from vigorous, hardy, productive trees and then the roots grown from such seed, carefully selected for health and vigor. This would be a step in the right direction. Much care should be exercised in the selection of scions. We never mature, the destroyers become very numerous. Some are purple and some a green color, and resemble lice. Will some Blade fruit grower please give its proper name, and give formula of some mixture that will destroy them, and the proper time to be applied to be most effective. Have tried Bordeaux mixture and paris green without any effect.—T. Cubana, W. Va.

Will some one familiar with horses and their diseases help me with their experience? Three years ago, while driving, my horse commenced to shake his head, sometimes holding it to one side, or down low, and then raising it high. This he does only in cold weather. The trouble seems to affect his for

Question Bureau

RULES.—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions all the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or firm, nor to tell where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest; and will not answer any questions concerning prices of old coins, stamps, etc. 5.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

Napoleon Bonaparte.

We take the Weekly Blade and I enjoy looking over the Question Bureau. I have no encyclopedia and so will you please, through your bureau, give me a short biographical sketch of Napoleon Bonaparte? In short, how he rose to his high position and his later life.—G. L. K., Blissfield, Mich.

How old was the son of Napoleon Bonaparte when he died?—I. T., Clearfield, Pa.

A sketch of Napoleon Bonaparte in these columns must of necessity be brief, so brief in fact as to do scant justice to the man of Napoleon's character, brilliant achievements and also deal with the final tragedy which ended his career. He was born August 15, 1769, and died at St. Helena, to which place he had ben banished, May 5, 1821.

Among Napoleon's earliest possessions were a violent temper and a passionate fondness for the military, his favorite plaything being a small bean cannon. He was a master among his playmates, and his elder brother was one of the first victims of that love of triumph which carried him to successful achievements in later years. Napoleon's school days were marked with brilliance. He possessed a virile mind and robust body. He was in military school at the age of 10, and three years later was captain of artillery; rapid advancement to colonel and brigadier general followed. March 6, 1796, found Napoleon married and in command of the army of Italy, with 35,000 men, and opposed to him an army of 60,000, and also experienced commander at their head. Here began the series of military triumphs which followed and which stamped him as foreward among military men of all times. They are matters of school history and cannot be reviewed categorically in a limited space. There was not cessation of triumphs, and December 2, 1804, "the soldier of fortune' was consecrated "the high and mighty Napoleon I, emperor of the French."

Napoleon's most brilliant victory in the field of militaryr conquest was that at Austerlitz, Dec. 2, 1805. Napoleon was divorced from the childless Josephine May 17, 1810, and in the following April married Maria Louisa, a daughter of the Emperor of Austria, and then followed one of the most brilliant periods of the French empire.

June 18, 1815, came the battle of Waterloo and the defeat of the French, and a war which had lasted 23 years was at an end, and the banishment of the brilliant Napoleon, in October of the same year.

Napoleon II, son of Napoleon and Mary Louise, was born March 20, 1811, and died July 22, 1832, at the age of 21 years, 4 months and 2 days.

Greenville Treaty Line.

Can you give us the facts concerning the Greenville treaty line running through Ohio—how it was established, and at what date and what counties does it run through? Where is its terminal in the east?—A. C. S., Fredericktown, O.

The Greenville treaty was established August 3, 1795, a total of 1,130 Indians being present. The basis of the treaty was that hostilities should cease and all prisoners be restored. The general boundary line between the lands of the United States and the Delawares, Shawnee, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pottawattomie, Miami, Eel River, Wea, Piankeshaw, Kickapoo and Kaskaskia tribes was established as follows:

Beginning at the mouth of the Cuyahoga river, thence up the same to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum, thence down that branch to the crossing place above Fort Laurens, thence westerly to a fork of the branch of the Great Miami river running into the Ohio, thence westerly to Fort Recovery, on the branch of the Wabash, thence southerly in a direct line to the Ohio, so as to intersect that river at the mouth of Kentucky river.

The treaty brought to a close the Indian war and released about two-thirds of Ohio from the occupation of the red man giving to him the northwestern portion of the state.

The Bible and Prohibition.

While arguing with a friend on the prohibition question he challenged me to show where in the Bible it is recorded that God ever commanded a nation to prohobit or abolish the drink traffic or any other evil thing. Is there any such commandment or its equivalent in any form? If not, what Bible authority have we directly for prohibition?—H. G. M., Russellville, Tenn.

There is no command in the Bible, either to individuals or to a nation, to abstain from the use of intoxicants. No such passage can be found. The reason is very plain. Wine was then the only alcoholic beverage. It was used at meals the same as tea and coffee are with us. Of course, tea and coffee were unknown at that time. There are many passages which denounce drunkenness, and the excessive use of wine, but none which prohibit its use. Since the rise of the prohibition movement, there has been an attempt made to make it appear that there were two kinds of wine in use at that day—one the juice of the grape, before it had fermented, and hence non-intoxicating; the other, the fermented juice. But this argument is simply absurd. The juice of any fruit—grapes, apples, pears, etc.—contains sugar. As soon as it is pressed out from the fruit cells which contain it a chemical change begins. The sugar, which is in watery solution, splits up into alcohol and carbonic acid, the latter being a gas, which gives the "sparkle" and foaming to hard cider, champagne, etc. If allowed to remain open to the air, the alcohol again splits up, forming acetic acid, which gives the sour taste to vinegar.

But it is well to remember that in those days the arts of brewing and distilling were unknown. Men did not know how to make beer and ale, nor how to distill whisky, rum, brandy, gin, etc. These latter, which are spirituous liquors, are far more destructive than the mild wines made in the centuries in which the Bible was in process of writing. Had Moses, for instance, known of whisky and other spirituous liquors, it is hardly to be doubted that in his minute laws for the regulation of the daily life of the Israelites, he would have embraced a rule forbidding their use. Similarly, it is not to be doubted that, had spirituous liquors been known in the time of Jesus, that he would have denounced their use in the most unsparing manner. The answer we gave some few weeks ago, concerning Christ's first recorded miracle—the creation of wine at the wedding feast at Cana—has brought upon the editor of the bureau a storm of violent criticism. The editor can stand it. He knows he is right, and that his critics are of that purblind creed who "read into" the words of Scripture the utterly wrong meanings which suit their own fanatical fancies.

Palindromes.

What is a sentence called that reads the same backward as forward, and what was the greatest ever uttered and by whom?—A. S. S., Camden, Mich.

A word or a sentence which spells the same backwards as well as forwards is called a palindrome. This word is from the Greek, and means literally, "that which run backward." There are few palindromes in English. The word "madam" is one. It spells the same read backward or forward. As to the longest one (which we assume you to mean when you say "greatest") in the English language, it is probably this, written by some English writer, whom we do not recall, on Napoleon Bonaparte: "Able was I ere I saw Elba." It spells the same backward. Of course the division between words is disregarded.

Thomas W. Lawson.

Who is T. W. Lawson and why is it that he seems to have the great speculators by the throat?—W. H. M., Coldwater, Mich.

Thomas William Lawson is a member of the firm of Lawson, Arnold & Co., bankers and brokers, Boston. They are members of the stock exchanges of Boston and New York. Mr. Lawson is 47 years of age, is many times a millionaire, is a yachtsman of note. He is the author of a number of books, most of which, however, were for private distribution only; and he has been a frequent contributor to magazines. It was through a series of magazine articles, "Frenzied Finance," that Mr. Lawson reached his present prominence in the financial world, meanwhile bringing upon himself the hatred of Wall street financiers. His plan is to break up and destroy what he calls the Standard Oil Co.'s system of finance—that is, to sell to the public stocks at $100 for which they would not pay in the market more than $60 or $70. Lawson's object is to force stocks of fictitious value on the market, expose their real worth and compel the manipulators to buy for their own protection. This he accomplished in the recent case of Amalgamated Copper, which is controlled by the Standard Oil Co., throwing the stock exchange into panic. He worked through newspaper advertisements, advising the public to sell.

Mr. Lawson's power, the weapon he uses to bring about what he has designated "financial reform," according to his own explanation, is publicity. His endeavor is to arouse the public against the Standard Oil system of creating fictitious values, and to fight system with system. Mr. Lawson's enemies attribute to him selfish motives and enmity, which of course, he denies. But whatever his motives his methods have the saving grace of a well planned endeavor to bring about a real reform in financial affairs as conducted on Wall street.

Never Two Pensions.

My father enlisted in 1862 and was discharged in 1865. He is drawing a pension of $12 per month; is 72 years of age. Can he make application and get the $12 that is allowed for a soldier that is past 70 years, without interfering with the first pension?—T. E. P., Fairmont, W. Va.

No, he can not. The "age rule" applies only to men not drawing a pension or to those now drawing less than $12 a month. A veteran who is not on the pension rolls can apply under the law of 1890, if he is over 70 years old, and receive a pension because of disability to earn his living, according to the age and feebleness. If he is drawing a pension, less than $12 per month, he can apply under the same law, relinquish his former pension, and obtain $12 per month. But in no case can he add this $12 per month to a pension he is already drawing. No man can draw two pensions because of different reasons. As your father is already drawing $12 per month, he can not get any more under the age ruling.

An Ancient Superatition.

I have been a reader and subscriber to The Weekly Blade for the last year, and take quite an interest in the Question Bureau. I like your answers, particularly on astrology. I believe it is really a fake and humbug. Do you regard chirosophy, or palmistry—fortune telling by the lines of the hand—in the same light? —J. E., Coral Hill, Ky

All kinds of "fortune-telling" are simply frauds, pure and simple. They are not worth discussing. Palmistry, or "chelrosophy," as some recent swindlers along that line have named it, is the acme of absurdity. It is a superstition handed down from ancient times, when the doctrine of fate was believed—that no one has any control over his own destiny, but that the three heathen goddesses, the Parcae, or Fates, decided his destiny before his birth. How any intelligent person of the twentieth century, or any Christian believer, can put any credence therein, is an insoluble puzzle to us.

The Paid Attendance.

J. C. D., Salem, O.; J. B. D., Fairfield Ill.; A. C., Kane, Pa., and a score of others, insist upon knowing about the paid admissions at the world's Fair in St. Louis. While the fair was in progress, these questions were an unmitigated nuisance. The only value to the average reader is to know the total, in millions, and compare it with the attendance at Chicago. But the hundreds of questioners who have bothered us on the world's Fair in a spirit of gain, for they desired to enter on some one of the many guessing contests. That is all right. They have a perfect right to do that; but they have not a shadow of right to bother the Question Bureau about it. Here is the very last reference that will be made in the Bureau to the matter. It is the Associated Press dispatch from St. Louis giving the official figures:

St. Louis, Dec. 21.—The official report of the director of concessions and admissions of the Louisiana Purchase exposition, made public today, shows that the total recorded admissions during the period of the exposition from April 30 to December 1, inclusive, was 19,694,853, of which 12,804,616 were paid and 6,890,239 were free.

The free admissions included from twenty to thirty thousand workmen who were admitted daily for several weeks to complete the work of construction of buildings and installation of exhibits. In the recorded admissions Sundays are not taken in account, that day having no relationship to the official admission records of the exposition.

The Territories.

Please name the territories of the United States.—A. S., Marengo, Ohio.

There are five regularly organized territories—New Mexico, Arizona, Indian, Oklahoma and Hawaii. There are two territorial districts—the District of Columbia and the District of Alaska. Added to these are the new insular possessions acquired by the United States under treaty with Spain. The Philippines are under a provisional civil government appointed by the president; a government for Porto Rico was established by the Fifty-fifth Congress; Guam and Tutuila are under governors appointed by the president.

Elijah.

Will you please tell me if Elias and Elijah, spoken of in the Scriptures, were the same persons, and if so why was his name changed?—I. C. R., Hytop, Ala.

Elias and Elijah are the same name, and, as used in the Bible, mean the same person. He is called Elijah in the Old Testament, and Elias in the New. The reason is this: The Old Testament was written several centuries before the New Testament; the Old was written in Hebrew, the New in Greek. Elijah is the Hebrew form of the name, Elias the Greek (or, more probably, the Aramaic) form of the same word. Christ did not speak Hebrew; the language he used was Aramaic, a corrupt Hebrew dialect. This difference in the spelling and pronunciation of the same proper name in different languages is almost universal. For instance, the name James is Iago in Spanish; thus, Santiago, Cuba, means Saint James. Jesus is the Aramaic form of the much older Hebrew name, Joshua. Hundreds of similar instances could be given.

Canada.

What is the origin of the word Canada?—F. L. A., Rushville, Ind.

The derivation of the word is not absolutely clear, but the most reasonable story is that it is derived from the Indian word Cannatha, meaning a village. The first French explorers, having a very limited knowledge of the Indian tongue, erroneously took it to be the name of the country, which has been called so ever since.

Divinity of Christ.

I am a subscriber and reader of The Blade and shall continue to be as long as I live. Will you please tell me what the Catholics and Protestants mean by the divinity of Jesus Christ?—D. W. M., Camden, Mo.

All Christians who adhere to the doctrine of the Trinity believe in the divinity of Jesus—that is, that while he was human on his mother's side, he was God because his father was the Almighty. There are a number of the smaller Christian denominations who deny His divinity, such as the Unitarians, who took that name to mark their disbelief in the Trinitarian doctrine. That is, they worship one God, the Father or Creator, and reject the Trinity, which they consider to be really three gods.

Comenius.

J. C. G., Sutherland, N. C.: Comenius is the Latin form of the name of Johann Amos Komensky, an educational reformer, born in Nivitz, Moravia (a province of Austria) in 1592, died in 1671. His principal reform was in the method of teaching languages to children, by the use of visible signs, in order to facilitate the learning of words.

Mohammedanism.

E. E., Andover, N. Y.: The word "university," as applied in the Mohammedan world, has not the same signification it has with us. The most celebrated Mohammedan "university" is that of the mosque El Azhar, in Cairo, Egypt, which has always several thousand students, from all Mohammedan countries. A mosque is not like one of our churches; it has not seats, no general auditorium. On the contrary, the large mosques are vast buildings, the roofs supported by pillars, without any arrangements such as we have for getting a large audience in small compass. El Azhar is a great building, but it has no classrooms, no professors, none of the things which pertain to a university in western Europe or in America. It is not a place for the study of science, mathematics, literature, etc. On the contrary, there is but one thing taught—the Koran of Mohammed, the product of his diseased, epileptic dreams, which the Mohammedans take as the sum of all useful knowledge. It is their text-book, not only in theology, but law, and in everything else which they deem worthy of study. In the mosque of El Azhar, for instance, at a given hour each day, the members of the ulema come into the mosque to expound the Koran. The student goes to the ulema whom he prefers. There is no study of a text-book, no recitations; simply the listening to an ulema, who expounds the Koran upon the subjects in which he is specially interested.

The word ulema means "the learned or the wise ones." It is the plural of the Arabic word alim, meaning wise or learned. The ulemas are the legal and judicial class; they are the interpreters of the Koran, and of the laws, which are derived from it. The three ulema bodies of the most renown in the Mohammedan world are those of El Azhar, Cairo; and those of Constantinople and Mecca. Among the ulema are the following classes of scholars and officials: the imams, or readers of public prayers in the mosques; the muftis, or doctors of the law, who act as advocates in the courts; the kadis, or mollahs, who are the regular judges. Over them all presides the Sheikh ul islam, the spiritual head of all orthodox Mohammedans, who is also the supreme judge of the Ottoman empire, and whose seat is Constantinople.

The Koran, the sacred book of the Mohammedans, was written in Arabic. It is now printed in that language, by the Turks themselves, and they do not, of their own motion, publish it in any other language. When they make converts, they expect the latter to learn Arabic, so that they may read the Koran. Turkish is a language remotely derived from the Semitic tongues, and may be deemed a dialect of the Arabic.

The word Islam is an Arabic word, meaning "submission"—that is, submission to the will of God. Mohammed used the word to signify the observance of five duties—bearing witness that there is but one God; reciting daily prayers; giving the legal alms; observing the month's fast of Ramazan; and making at least one pilgrimage to Mecca. Moslem or Muslim, and Musulman are from the Arabic muslem, to submit.

Our Consular Service.

J. T. R., Hartville, Mo.: The duties of consuls of the United States include the shipment, discharge and relief of seamen of American vessels; adjustment of differences between masters and crews, reclamation of deserters, protection of citizens of the United States, settlement of estates of citizens who may die intestate in foreign countries, issuance of bills of health; certifying to the sanitary condition of cargoes, passengers and crews of vessels clearing from foreign ports to the United States; issuing and viseing passports; superintending the disinfection of merchandise exported to the United States, from a district in which infectious diseases exist; execution of landing certificates and certification of invoices of merchandise valued at more than $100 exported to the United States.

"The duties of consular officers with respect to the development of foreign trade are of comparatively recent origin," says an authority on the subject, "but, owing to increased competition among commercial nations, have become of special importance within the last few years. Every consular officer is now expected to have accurate knowledge of the conditions of trade and commerce of the district where he is located, and he is required to keep the department of state fully informed regarding all matters of interest touching the industries, trade, commerce and navigation of the country of his official residence. He must report promptly new markets for American products, changes in transportation rates and facilities, the opening up of new trade routes," and many other things of general interest.

The information supplied by consuls is published by the government in the form of advance sheets and regular monthly consular reports. The compensation varies with the importance of the post. Usually, a consul should be conversant with the language of the country in which his post is situated, though this is not always made imperative.

Abraham Lincoln's Father.

Can you give me, through the columns of your paper, a brief sketch of Abraham Lincoln's father? How many brothers and sisters did Abraham have, and who his mother was before she was married.—M. M., Elizabethtown, Ky.

Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham, belonged to a family of five children—three sons and two daughters. Thomas was the youngest of the boys and their inferior. He lacked those qualities which command success, and which his brothers possessed. He learned the trade of a carpenter, and married, June 12, 1806, Nancy Hanks, a niece of the man with whom he learned his trade. At the time of her marriage Mrs. Lincoln was 23 years of age, was handsome, and is said to have possessed an intelligence superior to her lowly surroundings. The young couple began housekeeping with little means, and what record we have of them leaves the impression that they were acquainted with many hardships. Three children were born to them, the first a girl, who grew to maturity, married and died, leaving no cheildren. The third, a boy, died in infancy. Abraham Lincoln was the second.

In 1816 Thomas Lincoln removed from Kentucky to Indiana, not far distant from the Ohio river, a rich and fertile forest country. Many hardships were suffered here, and in 1818 Mrs. Lincoln sickened and died, young Abraham being at the time about 9 years of age. The husband later, while on a visit to Kentucky, married a worthy, industrious and intelligent widow named Sarah Bush Johnston, who brought order to the pioneer's home. In 1830 they removed to Macon county, Illinois, where they resided only a short time, going from there to Coles county, where the father died in the year 1851.

Niagara's Bridges.

It would be interesting to me and doubtless to thousands of others to know how the bridges at Niagara Falls were constructed. Can you give a brief description?—J. I. W., Macon, Ill.

The construction of the Niagara Falls bridges is a matter of history. The first great interest to the beholder in viewing the structural work suspended in mid-air above that awe-inspiring chasm, we assume, centers in the methods employed in spanning, which was, after all, a very simple undertaking. The first line was carried across by the aid of a kite, which was sailed across and allowed to land. This gave the preliminary span, or string, necessarily fragile of course, but sufficiently strong to draw another line slightly increased weight, with this another still larger, and then another, and so on, each line increasing in size and strength until a rope was reached sufficiently strong to bear the weight of a cable. After the first cable came another, and another until a structure of sufficient strength to bear workmen was built, and the mighty bridges grew into their present strength and capacity.

Miscellaneous.

L. E. H., Evart, Mich.: See a lawyer.

J. A. S., Harrisville, N. Y.: Unfortunately we cannot answer your question.

W. H. C., Tobascoville, N. C.: Make inquiry of some scientist.

R. J. K., Midland, Texas: We know of no method for soldering aluminum.

W. J. C., West Millbrook, Mich.: You have been misinformed.

T. J. B., Hebron, Neb.: We have no knowledge of the coin you mention.

F. F. R., Palisade, Colo.: We have no data on the subject of inaugural balls.

R. H., Wellington, Ill.: Consult your nearest news dealer.

R. E. L.: We have not the space to comply with your request.

W. R. G.: There is no law excluding Japanese from this country.

G. W. W., West Union, W. Va.: All we know was printed in a news article two or three weeks ago.

W. H. R., Brewster, Va.: In our opinion there is no law pensioning state guards. See a pension attorney.

M. B. W., New Weston, O.: Consult a coin dealer. You will see by the rules that the editor is not allowed to answer questions about old coins.

C. R. B., Ruff's Dale, Pa.: The Associated Press no longer carries the arrival and deaprture of Philippine transports and we have no means of knowing.

J. W., Ramsey, W. Va.: Some one familar with oil wells should be able to give you the information you desire. We cannot.

L. M., Confluence, W. Va.: The liberty bell was cracked in 1835 while being tolled for the death of Chief Justice Marshall. We have on means of knowing the name of the man who was ringing it at the time.

I. S., Piqua, O.: The liquor traffic is not mentioned in the constitution of Ohio, except in the provision that the state can not license the liquor traffic. The taxation of saloons is under legislative enactment.

C. C. S., Byington, Tenn.: The teachings of Christ are embodied in the four gospels, which make clear His character and mission. It is not for us to say that any church does or does not embody His complete teachings.

E. F.: The man who enters a trolley car enters into an obligation to pay his fare, and the fact that the conductor does not seek him to collect the fare does not discharge the obligation. An honest man will govern himself as he would in any business transaction.

E. M. M., Nellie, N. C.: If you have read the Socialist's platform you have as full and complete knowledge of the form of government they propose as we possess. Neither do we know where they obtained their ideas, unless they were evolved in the land of dreams.

MAKING REAL MONEY

Various Machines Used in the Philadelphia Mint.

Whoever thinks of coming to Philadelphia without visiting the mint? Except Philadelphians, perhaps, there is no person who could stay long in Philadelphia without an overwhelming desire to see gold and silver converted from molten masses into money for Uncle Sam's capacious pocket, says the Philadelphia Record. Everybody has heard about the people who "coin money." It is worth while to see money coined by the bareruful in the twinkling of an eyelash. No description, however vivid, can quite supply the emotion that is created by the sight of these mighty mills as they grind out the alluring bits of gold and silver for which nations sacrifice their people, and for which hundreds of weak mortals sell their souls. There is little formal red tape about visiting the mint. A score of uniformed employes are in the building ready to show one through. The number of visitors who avail themselves of the courtesy of the mint varies every day. Sometimes there are as many as 1,000 a day; sometimes but 200 or 300.

Visitors to the mint, like the people in the Mother Goose melodies, come in a variety of costumes—some in rags, some in tags and some in velvet gowns. Last week a poor Italian woman who lives downtown wanted to see the mint. She had few opportunities to come without her offspring, so she brought them all with her, a lively, chattering, excited bunch of six, who kept the guards busy and almost drove the too curious mother to the verge of distraction. In the same party as the troublesome brood were a couple of treasury officials who had come to take a cursory view of the new building, some very intense New England school teachers, a group of schoolboys and a couple of fashionably dressed society women—a typical mint party, and such as can be seen any day of the week.

With the exception of a few sacred places reserved for the conclaves of the officials who dominate the affairs of the mint and a few of the women's apartments, there are no places in the building to which a visitor may not go. The beginning and the end of the coin is here. While you wait you can see the molten masses of silver and gold being turned into the legal tender. Every detail of the process except the mining and smelting of the raw article takes place before one's eyes in this mint of Philadelphia. You can touch money, smell it and feel it in every process of the evolution. To the vast majority of the visitors there is no room in the mint quite so fascinating as the pressroom. In this room the unmarked pieces of gold and silver are stamped by the thousands. Twenty-four presses do all the coining for the mint. Pieces of small denominations, like quarters and dollars, are coined at the rate of 100 a minute, while those of the larger denominations are coined at the rate of 80 a minute. The largest output of money in one day in the Philadelphia mint was $500,000. There can be no calculation of an average daily output, as no two days are exactly alike in the kind of coining that is done. Sometimes all the presses do not work at once, sometimes all work on silver or all on gold, so that there is nothing that will serve as the basis for calculation.

Until very recently women employed in the mint were intrusted with all kinds of work. The counting room or the stamping room, especially, was occupied by women workers. Women sat at the presses and machines, and they did it as well as men. Now, when it becomes necessary to accumulate votes, the women are dismissed and men put in their places. Surely, this is a field for the suffrage enthusiast, which also offers a striking example of the economic value of women's work for, besides suffering the indignity of being thrust ruthlessly from their positions, the women know that the men receive higher wages for doing the same kind of work. With women work in the mint in this respect is not exactly enviable, for political conditions increase or lessen their influence in retaining their positions.

The counting board has attracted considerable attention from all the visitors. It is rather a unique device for counting money that has come into vogue within recent years. All the coins are placed upon the board, and when every notch and groove is accumulated. Some of the counting boards measure out as many as $500 worth of quarters at a time. It takes but a couple of seconds to fill the board, and then it is turned into a box, and $500 more is added to the money stored up in the inaccessible regions of the mint's safe deposit vault. Nothing could be quicker than this modern device for counting money, yet for a great number of years the employes labored over the counting, which was done in a way that was both cumbersome and expensive.

Besides the mint here there are three mints in this country, one in San Francisco, one in New Orleans, and one in Denver, but Philadelphia leads them all. Of all four there is none that can compare with the mint here for the amount of work done. Last year, when the government demanded an unusually large output of money, all of the mints in this country were made to work at the highest pressure. It will gratify the citizens of this city to know that in this contest the Philadelphia mint was capable of doing better work in a shorter space of time than any one of the other mints. Thirty million dollars in double eagles were coined by this mint during the month of July last. This is the largest amount of money that has ever been coined by the local mint; also the largest amount of money that has ever been coined at any single mint in the whole world. During the last fiscal year there was coined at the Philadelphia mint $117,000,000, a sum that has never been exceeded by any mint.

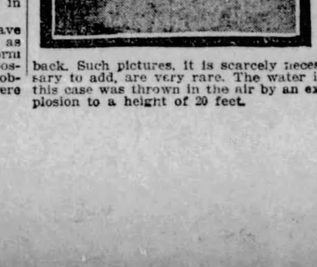
A large source of the revenue for the maintenance of the mint here comes from foreign countries. In other words, Uncle Sam lets out his coining machines to people in other countries who are not so fortunate as to have these little conveniences. Nearly all the South American republics have had their money coined at the local mint. When a small country like Costa Rica wants some money coined it advertises for bids. In most cases the United States has been fortunate enough to underbid the mints of Germany, France and England, and Uncle Sam, to drop into the vernacular of the politician, can nearly always "get the job."

Colombia used to have all her money coined here, but since our recent little unpleasantness with that fractious republic we have not been honored with her custom. Panama, on the contrary, gives us all its money to coin. Until the last year all the coining for Panama was done in France. The money for the Philippines is all made here now, with the exception of a little that is being turned out in San Francisco. The coins for the Philippines are made with a view to educating the Filipinos. Half of the money is in English and half in Spanish. What with making coins for the South American republics and other countries and our foreign possessions it would seem that work in the mint ought to be in itself a liberal education.

It would be a strange person who could visit the mint without giving way to the temptation to moralize. No one can see the great shining piles of coins as they are poured into the bags without speculating as to what will become of them. A few of the pieces will reward the struggles of the poor laborer, some will go to add to the miser's hoard, while still more of it will be heaped up on the accumulated piles of the multi-millionaire, and a great deal of it, one hopes, will be used to give comfort and rest to some of the pathetically helpless ones of the earth, who cannot earn it themselves. If one could leave the mint with the belief that a great mass of the money was to be used in the broad interest of suffering humanity all over the world, that lives were to be made happier because of it, there would be nothing mercenary in saying that the almighty dollar was a thing to be worshipped, indeed.

BLAST UNDER WATER.

Here is a very lucky snapshot of a fountain of water caused by an explosion beneath the surface. It was taken at the instant the water had reached its height, and before it had commenced to fall



back. Such pictures, it is scarcely necessary to add, are very rare. The water in this case was thrown in the air by an explosion to a height of 20 feet.

After the Chores Is Done

Long when the lamp is lit
With our boots up to the fire,
When pa 'ud cum in an' stomp a bit
An' shake hisse'f an' git nl'er
The old fireplace, an' stan' on the hearth
An' rub his han's an' warm,
Home's jest the bestus place on earth
To be, safe frum the storm;
When the stock is fed an' the chores is done.

Ma'd be in the kitchen jest a hus'lin'
With her supper, an' through the door
I could see her jest a bus'lin'
Nen—supper's ready—we jest tore
Ter set down at the table fust.
An' be ez still while pa said grace,
Nen we'd eat till we'd most bust—
Ever'one eggzackly in his place—
Long at night when the chores is done.

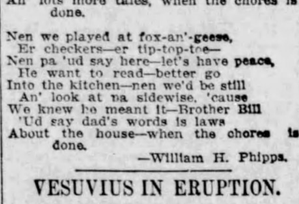
Nen pa told 'bout all the times
An' fun he had when he's a kid—
Sittin ketch'd a makin' rhymes
In school—an' how they slid
Down the hill, in the moonlight
Clean to the old mill, la! la!
How pa an' Uncle Jim 'ud fight
'Bout Nancy Ann McGibbin, ha! ha!—
An' lots more tales, when the chores is done.

Nen we played at fox-an'-geese,
Er checkers—er tip-top-toe—
Nen pa 'ud say here—let's have peace,
He want to read—better go
Into the kitchen—nen we'd be still
An' look at pa sidewise, 'cause
We knew he meant it—Brother Bill
'Ud say dad's words to the laws
About the house—when the chores is done.

—William H. Phipps.

VESUVIUS IN ERUPTION.

The most gigantic gun in the world to be found in the present century is shaped within Mount Vesuvius. It has hurled high in the air from a great depth a molten projectile weighing 16,000 pounds. This view was taken during the eruption in the latter part of September. The first



discharges appeared to take place deep down in the crater—"as at the bottom of a grate" is the way a correspondent describes it. The walls of the crater at the bottom afforded sufficient resistance to the discharges, which shot upward, a flash preceding the report, as in the case of a gun. Finally the force of explosion appeared at a higher level and broke the walls of the crater, after which the volcanic gun ceased to work. Some day it is predicted man will harness the Titanic forces of the volcano to do his bidding, but such an undertaking will only appeal to the ambitious mind of over-adventurous or to a writer of fantastic fiction.

THE TUNNEL UP THE JUNGFRAU

The biggest tunnel in Europe is undoubtedly that of the new Jungfrau electric line which is to reach the summit of the mountain. According to recent reports the tunnel, which is now in construction, has passed the altitude of 3,000 meters (1.8 miles). As the road is entirely underground after reaching the altitude of 2,400 metres (1.04 miles) it may be safely affirmed to be the highest tunnel in Europe. The work, which commenced over ten years ago, is very slow. The second station, that of Rothstock, was opened to the public on the 2d of August, 1899, and the third, the Eigerwand station, not until the 1st of July, 1903. The next station, that of Mer de Glace, will not be opened before next summer, and perhaps only in 1906. The great length of time needed for the construction lies in the fact that the rock is especially hard and it is impossible to use quick-working drills.—Scientific American.

SALARIES OF ENGLISH PRO-CONSULS

The highest figure paid to any pro-consul by England is $100,000, which is the sum received by the viceroy of India. This seems a large sum, but it never really covers the expenses. The South African post pays $55,000. The governor general of Australia receives $50,000, equal to the salary of the president of the United States. The same salary is paid to the governor general of Canada. But in none of these cases is the salary adequate to cover the expenses attendant upon entertaining in a style in keeping with the dignity of the position. In South Africa, on the other hand, the governor general need entertain but little. The $5,000 paid Lord Milner in this capacity is a dual salary, $40,000 being paid him as governor of the Transvaal and $15,000 as high commissioner.

FATAL APPLAUSE.

An English snake charmer named Leyton was performing at a village called Vaelhillinger, in Rhenish Prussia, in a menagerie with a boa constrictor, which she permitted to coil around her neck. Her courage met with thunderous applause from the spectators, who little dreamed that by their signs of approval they had sealed the performer's death warrant. Such, however, proved to be the case, for, apparently infuriated at their demonstration, the reptile tightened its coils and amid the shrieks of the public strangled the woman on the platform before anything could be done to save her. The snake was immediately killed.

CHAMPAGNE CITY.

The town of Ebernay, in France, is a vast subterranean city, the streets for miles and miles being hewn out of the solid chalk, flanked with piles of champagne of all blends and qualities. There is no light in this labyrinth of streets, crossings and turnings, except that which the sputtering candles afford. All is dark and damp, with the thermometer down about zero. The largest champagne manufacturers in Epernay possess underground cellars which cover no less than 45 acres and contain 5,000,000 bottles of wine.

THE POKER PLAYERS.

They all liked Smith. Though Jones might make
To Brown short observations that
Would start a lively "give and take"
And almost lead into a "spat."

They all liked Smith. Though Bilkins might
Insinuate that Jenkins' game
Showed luck that was mysterious quite
'Mongst gentlemen, yet all the same.

They all liked Smith. Though often rose
Disputes engendering rancor stern
Amongst the others, heaven knows,
They were remote from one's concern—

They all liked Smith. A simple soul
He was, who always lost his cash
Without a murmur, on the whole,
And played a childlike game and rash!

MORAL.

Friend, would you be more popular
Among the gang than now you are?
It can be compassed quickly with
A little trouble: Do like Smith.

Then will they sound of praise the chord
Through all the town, for though the Lord
Doth a right cheerful giver love,
A cheerful loser men approve!

—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

That Compact Existence.

"You can always tell a New Yorker."
"How?"
"He always takes it for granted that any piece of furniture bigger than a writing desk is a folding bed."—Washington Star.

Bruddah Bean's Prophecy.

"Yes, bruddahs en sistahs," shouted Bruddah Beans, at the revival meeting, "Ah can see it now. When some of dese heah health cranks git to paradise dey'll be askin' St. Peter ef de milk am sterilized."—Chicago News.

The Sunday School.

THE WORLD'S BEST THUMBED BOOK

The International Sunday School Lesson for Jan. 1 is "Christ the Life and Light of Men." John 1:1-18.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

After listening to the petty patter of social small talk, it is always a welcome tonic to hear a great man speak greatly on a great theme. And after a surfeit of newspaper reading concerning daring adventuresses, frenzied financiers, crimes, disasters, politics and trivial gossip it is a relief to turn to a masterpiece of literature upon a sublime subject.

Here we have, in the fragment of sacred writing which is an assigned subject of study for millions of persons next Sunday, what conservative critics have called the greatest piece of literature in human speech. By reason of its style, as well as by reason of its substance, the prologue to the Gospel of John has been awarded this high place in the ranks of immortal literature. As to its form, the simplicity, dignity, rhythm and power of the words are obvious even to the unscholarly; not only is the passage the purest Greek in the New Testament, but it is also the finest English. The subject matter is the loftiest that ever engaged human thought—eternity, divinity, the beginnings of all things, the dominant universal forces, life, light and the supreme mystery of the incarnation of the divine in the human, of God in man.

An Immortal Bit of Literature.

Having said this, it becomes necessary to print the passage in question which is the introduction, the summary and the thesis, of the Fourth Gospel. Contrast these few lines, in their length, style and character, with the longest and most important piece of news in today's paper and behold the difference.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness apprehended it not. There came a man sent from God named John. The same came for witness, that he might bear witness of the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came that he might bear witness of the light. There was a true light, even the light, which lighteth every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and they that were his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to them that believed on his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became the flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth. John beareth witness of him, and crieth, saying, This was he of whom I said, He that cometh after me is become before me; for he was before me. For of his fulness have we received, even grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."

A Glimpse of the Author.

The man who could write such words is worth knowing; and as we print all sorts of trifling anecdotes concerning the authors of the flood of fiction which almost submerges the bookshelves and our library tables, there is warrant in present-day usage for introducing the personality of this man John, whose gospel will be the most widely-read writing in the world during the next six months, when the International Sunday School Lessons, studied by twenty-five millions of people, will be taken from it.

John was the cousin of Jesus, who is the central figure in everything he wrote. His mother, Salome, was sister to the Virgin. Zebedee, the father, was a prosperous fisherman, and with his sons, James and John, plied his calling on the blue waters of Galilee. The sturdy simplicity and independence of the average Galilean, who was far removed from the polite artificiality of the city, characterized John, as all the other ten Galilean apostles—only Judas, the traitor, being from outside of Galilee.

John was naturally religious, and when the Forerunner, John the Baptist, appeared by the Jordan, the young man attached himself to the virile herald, until the latter pointed out the One Who Was to Come. Thereupon John found his brother James, and they became disciples of Jesus, "Sons of thunder" these two were called, because of their strong outbreaking characters. It was an early fruit of the new life that John the thundrous should become the spiritual, sympathetic comrade of Jesus, his closest friend in all the world. The eagle is the emblem of John in sacred heraldry, signifying his soaring spirit and his penetrating vision. He is the seer of the New Testament. The Book of the Revelation came from his pen, as well as three Epistles and this Fourth Gospel, which penetrates further into the mystery of the Incarnation than any other book in the sacred canon.

An Editor's Opinion.

One lays down most of the recent books which he has been beguiled into reading with a "Cui bono?"—What's the Use?" thankful, there is no sufficient reason to justify the existence of one-tenth of the books which pour from the press nowadays. Not so with the volume to which we are here introduced. It has one purpose, one aim, clearly avowed, and to that it adheres with a consistency that never swerves.

The common notion among young people and some of their elders, as well, is that the Bible is a collection of pious texts. They are accustomed to seeing it dealt with as a respository of short passages, to be used as sermon starting points, or as mottoes to hang upon walls, or to commit to memory. This is a pernicious idea. A square look at this Fourth Gospel goes far to remove this. For the book proceeds with all the logical sequence of a philosophical treatise; one part is dependent upon the other almost as truly as the propositions of Euclid. The whole find its reason for being in the closing words of the argument—for the last chapter is in the nature of an appendix—"These are written that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye may have life in his name." That is the key which unlocks every passage in the work; it is the master word

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1904.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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LACE CURTAINS FOR YOU

Special Notice to Readers Whose Time Expires In January.

Thousands of our readers have in use lace curtains which we have so liberally given for clubs within the past two years, and knowing nothing can be more acceptable to club raisers, we have concluded to offer them again this season.

Each curtain is 29 inches wide by 2½ yards long, and two curtains (or one pair) are sent postpaid by mail to each person awarded on terms stated below. They are described as Number 2961. We have them all made the exact same pattern, in order that those who desire to obtain additional pairs may have them match their first award.

How to Obtain the Premium.

On the first day of each month we shall mail notice to every subscriber whose time expires during that month, giving choice of some half dozen or more propositions for renewal. All who send us a club of ten or more subscribers according to Proposition No. 3, will receive a pair of these curtains postpaid by mail. By January 1st the many subscribers expiring during January should have our propositions. Each and every one should renew under one of the propositions, and at least 1,000 of the number should send us a club, for which we are prepared to meet the award with 1,000 pairs of curtains. You will notice that just now we make this offer to January subscribers only, and thirty days later the February people will have their turn, and so on in order of expiration, giving us orders with such regularity that we may be prepared to meet them promptly.

We shall give all an opportunity during their expiration month. Should any January subscriber fail, for any reason, to get the proposition by January third, they will please write us for a duplicate. And also please remember that unless one of the propositions be accepted before February 1st, you will never have the opportunity again, because beginning that date we deal with February subscribers only. We look for a renewal of every January name, and an equal number of new ones.

SUPREME COURT DEFINES AUTOMATIC COUPLER LAW

Railroad employes in this country are elated over the decision of the United States supreme court in the case of Johnson vs. the Southern Pacific Railway company. Johnson was a freight brakeman and at a station in Utah had both arms mashed while trying to couple a dining car to a locomotive. He brought suit for damages under the statute requiring that cars engaged in interstate commerce be equipped with automatic couplers. The lower courts denied him relief but he appealed to the highest court in the land and has won a victory, not only for himself but for the entire railway fraternity.

The opinion, which was handed down by Chief Justice Fuller, clears up several points that have heretofore been in controversy. It maintains that, in order to comply with the law, couplers of different constructions must couple with all other couplers; that a car engaged in interstate traffic is subject to the law whether moving or standing still, or whether on a siding or on a main track; and that locomotives, as well as cars, must be equipped with the couplers.

Secretary Moseley, of the interstate commerce commission, regards the case as of the highest importance, not only because it makes a clear exposition of the law, but because it teaches the railway employe that he can get justice by appealing to the supreme court, even though the lower courts, as he has been led to believe, are antagonistic to him. In Mr. Moseley's opinion, it is the first instance where the government has intervened to prevent the nullification of a statute or maintain the integrity of the law.

This ought to be the end of one of the most stubbornly fought contests in the history of the country. The coupler statute was enacted only after years of struggle and at a time when many of the railroads were hard pressed for funds. Receivers applied for, and were granted, extension after extension on the plea that a strict enforcement of the statute would cripple the properties. Then as times became more prosperous, other excuses were brought forward, but the people who secured the passage of the law have been tireless in their efforts to force the railroads into a compliance with its provisions. Now that the court of dernier resort has placed its mark of approval on the law, roads that are not already properly equipped with the coupler, will no doubt hasten to remedy the defect. Their procrastination is all the more remarkable because the law is of as much benefit to the railroads as it is to the employe. The automatic coupler not only saves time, but it saves lives, and thereby heavy damage suits which, even if the roads win, cost them thousands of dollars to defeat.

FOREIGN TRADE FOR NOVEMBER

The November statement giving the figures of the foreign trade of the United States shows that the total value of exports for that month was larger than for any previous November, except that month last year; and that the value of imports is the largest known for any month, except March last, when they exceeded 96 million dollars. The exports in November aggregated over 157 million dollars in value, while the imports were worth a little more than 95 millions. The excess of exports was 62½ millions—a tidy little balance in Uncle Sam's favor.

But great was the volume of exports, it shows a striking shrinkage as regards breadstuffs, provisions and cotton—our three great agricultural staples. The shipments of breadstuffs—wheat, flour and corn—amounted in value to less than half those of November of last year, and as the prices now are higher than they were then, the total amount shipped shows a still greater decline. The diminution in the total value of cotton shipments is largely due to the recent decline in prices. But as the total value of the November exports was so great it follows that, as compared with the same month one year ago, the shipments of manufactures increased by some 15 million dollars in value last month.

The increase in imports means a large demand at good prices. Hence it is an index of prosperity among the American people; they have money, and are able to spare it for purchases of foreign articles, many of which are luxuries.

THE ANNAPOLIS HAZERS.

It is a credit to the national house of representatives that it, on December 19, promptly rejected a resolution to reinstate three midshipmen who had been expelled from the naval academy at Annapolis for hazing. A similar resolution was introduced at the last session, and was turned down with equal emphasis. That should have settled the matter. But the three young men concerned could not eliminate a fixed idea from their minds that their political "pull" would be strong enough to cause congress to stultify itself by their reinstatement.

The Blade knows nothing of these three young men except that they grossly violated the rules of the naval academy, and adopted a course of conduct which they well knew would render them liable to expulsion. The offense was aggravated by the fact that all were members of the senior class, who should have set to the younger midshipmen an example of that strict obedience to law, and to the orders of their superiors, which is vital to success in the profession of arms.

It is to be regretted that these young men have so marred their own careers; but the fault is their own. Had congress adopted the resolution and reinstated them, the whole student body at Annapolis would have accepted it as license to disobey the rules against hazing, and there would at once have been a revival of the practice.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

In the current number of the London National Review there is a notable paper on the Russian Baltic fleet and its voyage to the Far East, written by Mr. H. H. Wilson, who is considered the leading naval authority of Europe. He gives a clear idea of the capabilities of the fleet. Of the seven battleships, four are among the best afloat, and equal in fighting strength to any in the British navy. Of the nine cruisers, five are new, while the four older ones have been rebuilt and brought up-to-date as fighting machines. There are twelve torpedo boat destroyers, built upon a model resembling the latest British type—built for hard work at sea, with high speed. The volunteer cruisers are fast, well-armed steamships, while the transports are converted mail steamers. The repair, store and coal ships are declared to be the best of their class. So the idea so largely entertained in the United States that the most of the Russian vessels are old, and out of condition, appears to be erroneous.

Mr. Wilson's theory as to the locality of the secret rendezvous of the two divisions of the fleet, somewhere in the Indian Ocean, is ingenious, to say the least. He conjectures that they will meet at the Chagos islands, 800 miles south of Ceylon; that after assembling there, the fleet will steam eastward 2,000 miles to the Dutch city of Batavia, thence 1,100 miles northward to Salgon, from which the course will be shaped for Port Arthur, or Vladivostok, or wherever may be the ultimate destination. His reason for conjecturing this course is that by this route all British ports will be avoided, save Chagos alone. The points at which the fleet conjecturally will touch, are those at which the rights of neutrals will not be enforced. We shall see how well Mr. Wilson's trained naval judgment corresponds with the facts when they develop.

THE LESSON OF HISTORY.

Something more than a half century ago, the agitation became active in England over the question of free trade. Its aspect, as presented to the people, was this:

The "corn laws," then in existence, levied duties on all breadstuffs imported into the United Kingdom. The word "corn," as interpreted there, does not mean what it does in the United States, where it is restricted to Indian maize, but all grains used for bread, including wheat, barley, rye and oats. Indian corn is not included, because it does not flourish in that climate. Up to that time, a duty was imposed upon all imported breadstuffs. The statutes imposing such duties were called the "corn laws." They were repealed in 1846, and a little later the full theory of free trade was adopted.

The argument advanced, and which won the day, was this: That England was then the leading manufacturing country of the world; that the lead she then held could only be maintained by cheapness of production; that the "corn laws," by putting an import duty on breadstuffs, made the cost of living higher to the workingmen in English industries; that the workingmen of England were numerically greater than the agriculturists; that the manufacturing interests of the United Kingdom were greater, as regards the number of people interested, than the farming interests; and that the latter, being in the minority, should yield to the interests of the majority.

To all this no American citizen can object, and the more especially as it worked to the advantage of the American farmer. But, looked at from the standpoint of the English farmer, the repeal of the corn laws was an unmitigated evil. Ever since their repeal in 1846, the agricultural interests of Great Britain have gone down hill. The officials figures of the acreage devoted to the raising of grain and hay show a steady decrease. Today the total production of wheat and other grains in England is only a fraction of what it was 52 years ago. Even during the past few years, when industrial conditions in the English cities have been undeniably bad, the acreage of farm land in Great Britain under cultivation has continued to decrease. There have been parades of the unemployed, and of the destitute in London and other centers of population, and at the same time an increasing area of fertile land in the country has been allowed to lie practically idle. Why? Because the price of imported grain under free trade does not allow of a reasonable profit to the English farmer.

The result is an accentuation in the British Islands of the conditions which, in the United States, are already causing our economic authorities to sound the note of alarm over the rush of rural population into the cities. Today agriculture is a very profitable occupation in the United States, yet our rural dwellers are drifting constantly to the towns and cities. There are many reasons for it in this country, all disconnected from the loss of profit to the owners of farms. But in Great Britain this drift to the cities has behind it the stress of imperative need. They can not live by farming.

From the above, one can understand the rush from farm to city in that country. The reasons are far more imperative than in the United States, where it is a matter of choice, rather than of necessity. But it is the same in every civilized country. Great Britain is the only one wherein the laws compel this drift. In all others, it is a matter of choice, not of the necessity of adequate means of living.

OUR GOLD AND SILVER.

The report of the United States geological survey shows that in the calendar year 1903, the production of gold in the United States was $73,591,700, and 50 million "fine" ounces of silver. The actual market value of this silver was $29,322,000. The so-called "coinage value"—the nominal or face value of the silver dollars of the present weight which it would make—was $70,206,060.

The difference between the two values marks the extent to which our currency would have been debased had the free silver crusade been successful, and a free coinage law enacted. All values would be measured in the bullion value of the silver dollar—a little less than 50 cents. In other words, the dollar, whether silver, greenback or national bank note, would now be worth less than half its present value. To put it another way, a dollar would have less than half the purchasing power the gold standard dollar has today. Gold would be an article of merchandise, and the amount of money in circulation would be diminished by the total amount of gold coin and gold certificates now in circulation.

The total value of the precious metals produced in the United States last year, reckoning silver commercially, was $102,913,700—a very handsome showing, and one which keeps this country in the forefront as a producer of these minerals, although there was a falling off as compared with 1902, owing to the mining troubles in Colorado. But it must not be forgotten that our mineral wealth, vast as it is, ranks far down the list as compared with the outputs of American farms and manufactories.

AFTER THE TRUSTING DOCTOR

The indictment of Cassie Chadwick's husband by the Cuyahoga grand jury adds another feature to this notorious case. The doctor is on his way home from Europe and is to be nabbed by a Cleveland officer as soon as he lands.

This is one of the most mysterious steps taken by the prosecution, and will occasion no little surprise. All the information thus far obtained from people who have reasons for being friendly or unfriendly to Mrs. Chadwick, has been in effect that Dr. Chadwick could not, in any possible manner, be linked up with his wife's crooked dealings. Visitors and servants describe him as a peaceful old man who was proud of his wife's ability as a financier, believing implicitly in her honesty and not the least suspicious of her fidelity. Whenever the great bankers would call, according to the testimony of one of the Chadwick maids, Cassie would meet them in her boudoir, the good and trusting doctor retiring to another quarter of the house pending the weighty conferences which followed.

If these stories are to be believed, then this indictment is simply a net to drag the doctor into court and make him produce. Having failed to find bundles of cash stowed away on the Chadwick premises, the outwitted bankers seem to think that the doctor may have planted it, and this criminal process is a screw to force information out of him. If the doctor is innocent, the plan may work, but if he really has knowledge of the means Cassie employed to milk the suckers, the fruits of her wicked industry, we fear, won't be turned over, for a time at least, to her hungry creditors. The doctor's movements since the explosion have not been those of a particeps criminis.

THE DEPARTMENT CLERKS.

Some time ago there was a loud outcry from the clerks in the departments at Washington because they were required to work up to 4:30 in the afternoon. Their hours had been from 9 until 4, and the extra half-hour was considered a hardship. But it was speedily pointed out to them that the law requires a minimum of seven hours per day, and it is within the discretion of each cabinet officer to say how much longer than seven hours they shall be on duty.

Secretary of the Navy Paul Morton found the other day that the work in his department was falling behind, and applied the same practical remedy which his years of railroad experience had rendered familiar. He ordered the clerks to report at 8 in the morning, and to remain until 5 in the afternoon. Mr. Morton knows that congress will not authorize him to employ more clerks, so he proposes that the present force shall not only do the work, but keep it up to date.

If any department clerk feels himself aggrieved by the additional time he is required to work, he has the remedy in his own hands. He has the right to resign; and as there is always a number of patriotic gentlemen ready to step into a department vacancy, the work of the government will not be hampered by his peremptory resignation.

MR. GARFIELD'S PLAN FOR CONTROLLING TRUSTS

Hon. James R. Garfield, commissioner of corporations in the department of commerce, in his annual report, advocates a method of corporation control, under federal authority, which seems sound and safe. Mr. Garfield has the same logical mind as his father, the martyred President, combined with a power of acute analysis. He has evolved a plan which will not only be effective, but which avoids any interference with the rights of the states over corporations chartered under their own laws.

Briefly stated, he recommends that any and every corporation which will be engaged in interstate or foreign commerce must secure from the national government a franchise and license to engage in such commerce. The points of Mr. Garfield's plan may be summarized as follows:

The granting of a federal franchise or license to engage in interstate commerce.
The imposition of all necessary requirements as to corporate organization and management as a condition precedent to the grant of such franchise or license.
The requirement of such reports and returns as may be desired, as a condition of the rentention of such franchise or licens.
The prohibition of all corporations and corporate agencies from engaging in interstate and foreign commerce without such franchise or license.
The full protection of the grantees of such franchise or license who obey the laws applicable thereto.
The right to refuse or withdraw such franchise or license in case of violation of law, with appropriate right of judicial appeal to prevent the abuse of power by the administrative officer.

As all important combinations, trusts or corporations are engaged in interstate and foreign commerce, and as the United States has the undoubted right to fix the conditions on which they may engage in such commerce, this plan will enable the national government to reform all the abuses of corporate greed complained of. The recommendation is one of the most important ever made, and marks a distinct step in advance in the solution of the perplexing problems which the trust question presents. And the American masses will be all the more in favor of the plan when it is known that President Roosevelt is believed to give it his full endorsement.

HAY'S PEACE CIRCULAR.

Secretary Hay, in a circular letter to the accredited representatives of governments signatory to The Hague conference, has practically put the peace proposition into the hands of the foreign powers. Briefly, it is up to the powers signifying their willingness to join in a peace movement, to say when the next step shall be made, and what it shall be; that this government, having made the first movement toward bringing about the conference, should not, and will not, assume the initiative in drawing up a program and in fixing the time of holding the conference.

In his letter the Secretary calls attention to the general favor the conference proposition has met. No dissent has found expression. The governments making reply are Austria-Hungary, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Luxemburg, Mexico, The Netherlands, Portugal, Roumania, Spain, Sweden and Norway, and Switzerland. All have expressed sympathy with the proposal, and have generally accepted it in principle. Russia and Japan replied with reservations, though accepting in principle. Russia looks upon the conference as impracticable under existing conditions in the Far East. Japan found less objection, making the single reservation that the conference shall take no action that will interfere with the present war.

Secretary Hay notes the gratification which President Roosevelt feels over the success of his efforts to bring about the conference, and refers to his faith in its ultimate success; but the President believes that with the acceptance in principle of his invitation, his purpose has been accomplished. The suggestion is made, however, that the further and necessary interchange of views between the signatories to the conference of 1899, should be effected through the international bureau under the control of the permanent administrative council of The Hague.

This action on the part of the United States government can not be accepted as in any way as an abandonment of its attitude. It has simply reached the limits of propriety. What further delay there may be in bringing about the conference, and how strong an influence the war in the Far East will exert in preventing the meeting at The Hague, are conjectural. The important thing to this government is that it has discharged its duty to humanity. There are other powers with greater interests in the fields of present conflict. It is essentially the more in the interests of peace.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

There is a revival of the project to make the Panama canal at sea-level. The members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce have just returned from a trip to the isthmus, and have doubts whether the ground where the great Bohio dam is proposed to be located is sufficiently solid to make the vast structure safe. Then, again, some time ago, a party of United States engineers, making surveys of the isthmus, found that the Chagres river can be turned into the Pacific ocean at comparatively little expense. This would obviate the necessity of a dam to curb the turbulent stream, and would render it possible to construct an ocean-level canal.

But there are certain objections to the latter also. The one is the long time it will take to build it; the second, the enormous added cost of excavation on such a vast scale. Last spring the statement was made that a tide-level canal will cost about $600,000,000, and that it will take more than a quarter of a century to do the task, even with 30,000 laborers at work all the time. Representative Hepburn, of the committee which has just returned, estimates that it will cost not over 100 million dollars more than a lock canal, but the engineer corps has not yet substantiated his statement.

Nor is the ex parte statement of Mr. Hepburn and his fellow-committeemen to be taken without a grain of salt. The French engineers have been at work for years on the isthmus. They have, presumably, made careful and exhaustive experiments to determine the nature of the foundation soil at the site of the proposed Bohio dam. Our own engineers have gone over the route again and again, and so far have not found any reason to doubt the stability of the earth and rock at that point. The people of the United States will be slow to accept the committee's dictum unless it be reinforced by expert judgment.

"THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN."

One involuntarily recalls Kipling's "White Man's Burden" on reading the article in the current issue of the World's Work, by Lord Curzon of Kedleston, viceroy of India. While he pardonably introduces a review of the reforms which have been effected in Indian governmental methods during his incumbency, the chief value of the article to the general reader is in his discussion of the strategic importance of India to the entire British empire, and his optimistic forecast of the destiny of that mighty country.

It is said that when the present Viceroy was plain George Curzon, a student at Oxford, his fellow-students teased him with the remark "that George Curzon is a very superior perzon"; and later, when he was a member of the house of commons, a member said of him that "Curzon's sole vice is omniscience." These are gibing references to the fact, recognized even in his student days, that Lord Curzon is a man of most brilliant intellect and acute judgment. That he has great powers and superb executive ability is shown by the fact that he has risen by his own merits to one of the very highest posts in the gift of the crown—the Viceroy of the sovereign over an empire.

The sentiments which he expresses as to the proper course in India do honor equally to his head and his heart. He declares that the prosperity of the British empire and the best interests of India depend upon treating the teeming millions of the latter with absolute justice and equality before the law. He believes that British rule in India is still in its youth, and that just and equitable government of the people will eventually weld them into an unity greater than has been dreamed of hitherto. Here is a part of England's share of the white man's burden—to elevate the masses of India, and amalgamate them into a homogeneous whole, which shall stand as a bulwark of the British empire against Russian diplomacy and aggression.

THE COOPER ACT.

There is a significance of no little importance in the passage, by the Senate, of the Cooper civil government act, giving to the Philippine islands laws for their regulation. The vote on the act—44 to 22—shows the unanimity of sentiment with which the Republicans regarded the matter. This vote is an unmistakable recognition of the sentiment of the American people as expressed at the polls in November and succeeds similar action of the House.

The act itself is built upon lines following closely the best civil governments in the United States, adapted to the peculiarities and conditions that exist in the archipelago. Self-government is advanced, immigration regulations are provided, and mining will be encouraged under the provisions of the act. The unprejudiced may see in this the reclamation of swamp lands, the injection of life into dormant places and the creation of values where none has heretofore existed. So much for the general provisions of the act. In addition thereto are the powers delegated to the municipalities. They are allowed to issue bonds for local improvements, and for the building of railroads, the issue in no case being allowed to exceed $5,000,000. A further safeguard is found in a provision that the amount of issue must be proportioned to the taxable value of the property interested.

Democratic antagonism to the bill was centered upon the provision guaranteeing a 5 per cent. income on securities for a period of thirty years. The opposition was against a thirty year guaranty, basing its objection on the assumption that the United States would not occupy the archipelago for a period of thirty years. But the attitude of the Senate, acting under the inspiration of the expressed will of the people at the polls, is opposed to the relinquishment of the islands. The Senate has provided for the present and future contingencies have not been reckoned with. To have done otherwise at this time and under existing conditions would have been to disregard the public will.

There may come a time when the United States flag will be hauled down in the Philippines, but there is nothing in the Cooper civil government bill to signify the early approach of that event.

THE TALE OF TOM TAGGART.

It used to be said in New York "If you see it in the Sun, it is so," and yet the story which that newspaper publishes concerning Tom Taggart seems almost incredible. Walter Scott has been charging in the Tammany Times all the wrong doing of that notorious body—the Democratic national committee—to Blue-Eyed Billy Sheehan, and incidentally defending Taggart as a man whose hands were tied by Parker.

But the Sun gives what it purports to be an account of one of the first meetings of the committee with Chairman. Taggart, in which the Hoosier displayed great dexterity for a man who was not supposed to have the free use of his "mitts." According to this story, Mr. Taggart explained (we think the Sun uses the more vigorous word, "demanded") that he must have $50,000 in cash to bolster up his organ, the Indianapolis Sentinel, and the Sun goes on, with considerable attention to detail, to tell how the effrontery of the new chairman took the committee off its feet. Did Tom get the money? The Sun claims that $35,000 was turned over to him during the campaign, presumably in compliance with his request (or demand).

Now on the surface of things, one is disposed to take more than a grain of salt in swallowing this yarn. We don't know anything about Tom Taggart's financial condition, but we do know that he is a pretty bright fellow, which fact is inconsistent with the story that he would open his whole soul to a crowd of Democrats, some of whom at least were not kindly disposed toward him.

There is reason for believing that the story is told in an effort to divert attention from Sheehan, but in any event, it is a row among Democrats, and a shindy of this kind is too common to hold public attention for any length of time.

Royal Mother Who Cannot See Her Children.

The former Crown Princess Louise, who now bears the title of Countess Montignoso, went to Dresden unexpectedly, accompanied by a lawyer, and asked to be permitted to see her children. Permission, however, was peremptorily refused and the Princess left Dresden.

The princess, who had written to the king that unless he granted her oft repeated request to see her children she would attempt to see them without his permission, arrived in Dresden from Vienna with a woman companion and went to the Hotel Bellevue, where she was immediately recognized before she had time to give an assumed name, if she intended to do so.

The police were informed, and then the Ministry sent a telegram to the king at Pillnitz, and he directed that she should on no account be permitted to enter the palace, but that she should not be arrested unless she became violent.

A few weeks ago sensational letters about the condition of the Russian army, purporting to have been written to his wife by the late General Count Keller, were quite extensively published. The Countess Keller has written to the London Times, which says that "the facts mentioned in them were grossly exaggerated most of them distorted and some even not true."

SULTAN OF MOROCCO FACES ANGER OF EUROPEAN POWERS

SULTAN OF MOROCCO

Tangier, Dec. 24.—The British minister has instructed the British consul and all their subjects to leave Fez. It is believed that all the other legations will similarly instruct people of their nationality.

The French minister has been instructed to communicate the protest of France against the dismissal of all foreigners in the employ of the government, to the sultan at the same time he notifies the consul, military men and citizens to prepare to depart. The officials here say that no definite military or naval steps have yet been taken, as these await the sultan's response to the minister's demand, but a demonstration in force will follow if a suitable explanation and reparation are not promptly given. The renewed revolt of the tribesmen is considered to be a serious danger to all foreigners in Morocco.

Important Legal Evidence.

Identification by thumb marks plays an important part in the story of Pudd'nhead Wilson, but out of the field of romance it is now a fixed factor. Bertillon gave it stability, and now the method is usually applied to criminals where the marks they leave behind on the windows or doors of the house they rob. No two persons' thumb marks are alike, and most prisons now keep a record of all their criminals' thumb and finger marks.

WHAT BECOMES OF PINS.

Although we are told when the question is asked, "What becomes of pins?" that they fall to the earth and become terrapins, a gentleman has gone to some trouble to find out that this is not so and to give us the correct answer. He has found that pins are resolved into dust. Hairpins which he watched for 134 days disappeared by rusting away at the end of that time. Bright pins took nearly eight months to disappear; polished steel needles nearly two years and a half; brass pins had little endurance; steel pens were nearly gone at the end of 18 months, though their wooden holders were still intact.

CLOTHE ENGLISH POSTOFFICE EMPLOYES

Twice a year some eighty thousand men and boys scattered from one end of England to the other must be fitted out with new clothes. These are the employes of the postoffice department and it is no small task to provide these garments, to say nothing of making sure that each is well fitted. The department uses 287 miles of cloth, 303 miles of lining, besides three or four million buttons and the other multitudinous things which go into the making of a garment. To simplify this work the device of "fitting sizes" has been resorted to, and as a result the men are clothed with automatic precision and with only two per cent of misfits.

Current Events.

Diplomats do not fear a Turko-Bulgarian war next year.

The French attorney general may seek to reopen the Dreyfus case.

Riveter falls from the Williamsburg, N. Y., bridge, 137 feet into the East river and apparently is uninjured.

Members of the Illinois railroad and warehouse commission are in strife regarding freight rates in the state.

Former Crown Princess Louise visits Dresden and pleads in vain at the palace gates to see her children.

Bench and bar of New York city gave a dinner to Alton B. Parker to honor his return to the practice of law.

Minnesota lawmaker charges he was offered $1,000 for his influence against United States Senator M. E. Clapp.

Thirty-seven banks fail in Iowa in two years, and ten persons connected with the banks of the state commit suicide.

St. Petersburg paper warns against a new Chinese society that is plotting with Japanese, it says, to exterminate foreigners in China.

President Newman, of the West Shore railroad, is instructed to contract for installing electric motors on parts of the main line.

Representative Tawney introduces a bill in congress to supervise the manufacture and sale of wood alcohol and prevent its use as an adulterant.

London is lost in a dense fog that turns midday into blackest night, paralyzing traffic. Queen Alexandra is forced to give up her trip because of the gloom.

Illinois state board of equalization fixes the assessment figures for the year at $1,060,775,546, more than $2,000,000 lower than the figures of a year ago.

Chicago business men are writing to the Illinois senators in Washington opposing the admission of the territories of Arizona and New Mexico as one state.

Prominent Democrats in the house of representatives have drawn up a petition to the president asking the appointment of Representative Warner as commissioner of pensions.

Ray Stannard Baker begins a series of articles on lynchings by declaring that the cause lies in contempt of the courts and unpunished subversion of the law and that lynching is not a southern, but an American crime.

Bill providing that no railway employe who has worked continuously for twelve hours can be called upon again to labor until he has had eight hours' rest is introduced in congress by Representative Norris of Nebraska.

Walter Wellman writes that President Roosevelt is urging Congress to take some action on the railroad rate problem during this session, and Speaker Cannon is sounding his lieutenants as to the advisability of passing a measure at once.

Walter Wellman says the President is encouraged by the discovery that the supreme court once gave the opinion that congress may delegate to a commission the power to fix railroad rates, intimating that if such a law were enacted it would be sustained by the court

Archie Dunbar and Inez Pierce of La Crosse, Wis., two youthful elopers, elude watchful parents and the officers of the law by leaping from cake to cake of ice across the Mississippi river to the Minnesota shore, and their marriage now is believed to have taken place.

Unusually early movement of grain catches railroads unawares, and Chicago is deluged with between 6,000,000 and 9,000,000 bushels of cereals, vainly awaiting transportation to the seaboard and intermediate distributing points More is on the way and the urgency is great.

Colorado Republicans decide to contest the election of Alva Adams, Democratic candidate for governor.

Governor Van Sant, angered by the Haskell charges of attempt to buy off supporters of Senator Clapp, openly announces himself a candidate for the Senate.

Fire in Sioux City, Iowa, destroys two locks in the center of the retail district, causing a loss of $1,000,000. One fireman is reported killed.

Six farmers and two merchants of Loraine, Wis., are arrested, charged with taking part in a whitecap raid in which a man and his housekeeper were tarred and feathered

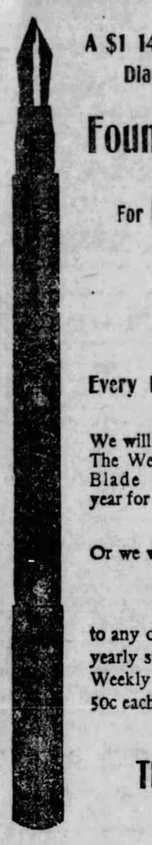
Four members of the sophomore class of Columbia University are suspended for attempting to haze Kingdon Gould, and the students in a mass meeting petition the faculty to reinstate the men

Bear escapes from his captors and runs amuck among the Christmas shoppers in Cincinnati, causing a panic. The animal finally is thrown by a negro wrestler, who is cheered y the frightened crowds.

Fate of the town of Dolores, island of Samar, where a lieutenant and thirty-seven native scouts were massacred, is causing anxiety in the War department, which had no official advices concerning the siege by 2,000 Palajanes.

HOW TO WALK.

There is no virtue in a dwadling saunter. The slow and languid dragging one foot after the other, which some people call walking, would tire an athlete; it utterly exhauts a weak person, and that is the reason why many delicate persons think they cannot walk. To derive any benefit from the exercise it is necessary to walk with a light, elastic step, which swings the weight of the body so easily from one leg to the other that its weight is not felt, and which produces a healthy glow, showing that the sluggish blood is stirred to action in the most remote veins.—Family Doctor.



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Toledo, Ohio

Silver-Plated Tableware

We offer our readers, this season, the Rogers Bros.' very handsome Cariton pattern of spoons. These goods are plated with pure silver on nickel silver base, and are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers.

The knives are first coated with copper, then heavily plated with nickel and afterwards with silver. The nickel plate not only doubles the durability of the goods, but, being nearly impervious to moisture, renders knives so plated less liable to rust than those plated in the ordinary way. Prices:

½ doz. Teaspoons..... $3.50
½ doz. Dessert Spoons $1.50
½ doz. Table Spoons 1.60
½ doz. Knives and Forks.... 3.75

All goods are sent by open mail or express, all charges prepaid by us. If you desire package registered, send 8c extra. A charge of 2c per letter is made for engraving.

Address all orders to
THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Waltham and Elgin Watches

We now make the most remarkable offers in the history of the watch business—WALTHAM and ELGIN watches only, regular 18 size and 6 size, in cases of the highest grade. Our gold cases are made of solid gold in two thick plates, reinforced with a sheet of fine composition metal. If properly used the 25-year cases will last a lifetime. Every watch contains Breguet hairspring, quick train, compensation balance safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus of the latest design, and all the greatest improvements known to modern expert watchmakers. WALTHAM and ELGIN watches don't wear out. They are all good. Of course, full (15) jeweled works in 25-year cases are better than 7 jeweled works in 20-year cases, but all are fully guaranteed. Why not have correct time? You can have it if you are fortunate enough to get one of our watches. These offers are not for the general public, but any subscriber may buy all he wishes at these prices, which are far lower than dealers' prices for watches not so good. Our men's watches are suitable for boys and our ladies' watches for girls.

The cases are plain or engine-turned. Engraved cases are extra, as per rates quoted in our list.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 71—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $14.30
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
No. 72—7-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case 11.65
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 73—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 15.90
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
No. 74—15-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case 13.25
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 75—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 12.20
No. 76—7-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case 9.75
No. 77—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 13.75
No. 78—15-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case 11.30

MEN'S NICKEL SILVER WATCHES.

No. 79—7-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case 5.60
No. 80—15-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case 7.20

LADIES' GOLD WATCHES.

No. 81—7 jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 12.15
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 82—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 14.00
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 83—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 11.35
No. 84—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 13.20

Remember our goods are just exactly as represented, and if you do not find them to be so, we will refund your money.

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THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

The "Ideal"

A $13.00 VALUE FOR $7.95.

We offer our readers a 12 size, open face, gold filled, plain engine turned or engraved case, guaranteed to wear 20 years, screw back, stem wind, lever set, fitted with an 11-jeweled American movement, for only... **$7.95**

The regular value of this watch is $13.00. It is a 12 size, being the smallest size men's watch made, and therefore very suitable for boys as well as men who do not care for a large, heavy watch.

In ordering be sure to state whether plain, engine turned, or engraved case is desired. All watches are sent by registered mail.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

The "Omega"

A Dainty Watch for Ladies and Girls

A $14.00 VALUE FOR $9.85.

We offer our lady readers a very dainty watch for the holiday season. This watch is O size, open face, stem wind and set, gold filled, plain, engine turned or engraved case, guaranteed to wear twenty years, fitted with a 7-jeweled American movement, for only $9.85. The O size is the smallest ladies' watch made, being 1¾ inches in diameter, and can be worn as a chatelaine. We can furnish a very handsome, gold filled chatelaine pin for $1.50.

The regular price of this watch is $14.00, but we offer it to our readers for the holiday season at $9.85. Order early.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Cut Paper Patterns

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered.

Please do NOT send stamps. Inclose a silver dime wrapped in tissue paper. Once more, do NOT send stamps. They stick together, and it is difficult to dispose of them, unless at a discount.

Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Notice that the price, 10 cents, is for a SINGLE pattern. Many of these show TWO patterns in an illustration. In such cases, either will be sent on receipt of 10 cents, coin, or both on receipt of two silver dimes.

Ladies' Blouse.

No. 6205—We have had many requests for a simple blouse with fitted lining upon which one may exercise personal taste in the selection of trimming and one whose style is assured for some time to come, that we are showing one today that should meet these requirements. No extravagance marks the shape of sleeve or bodice. It is a mode that has a charming distinction of style, every detail of cut or fit meeting with consideration. It is a model that is suitable to the

slender or to the stout sister. The full blouse portion is gathered to a pointed yoke and the sleeve is attached to a rather deep cuff. The closing is in the back, thus affording good space in front of blouse for any desired decoration. The pattern includes a fitted lining, also cut on the newest lines. Silk, lightweight cloth, satin, or brocade would be suitable for best wear. The model, however, is as pleasing in the cotton wash materials.

Sizes—32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

Ladies' Dressing Sack.

No. 6135—This is the season when every woman is getting the most good of her dressing sacks. They are such cool, comfortable little garments and are so easily made, that one should have a goodly supply. It is a garment that the home dressmaker is sure of, for no matter what the material or style, it can be easily

made at home and with most gratifying results.

Many women make kimonos from their last season's lawn dresses and by the addition of white or contrasting bands, the cost is simply nothing. The model shown here is one of those loose flowing styles, without the least suggestion of skimpiness, as usually found in ready-made wear. The pattern provides for a full-length garment or as illustrated. Lawn, challie, silk and crepe are used.

Sizes—Small, medium and large.

Ladies' Pleated Eton.

No. 6021:—Among the many pretty styles that have a strong hold on feminine fancy none is more surely established than the smart little Etons. In fact, they are seen every day made up in every conceivable shape and material, and very unfortunate is the woman who cannot boast of at least one silk one. They are so simple to make and requires so little time and material that every woman who is at all skilled with her needle, could fashion a number in a little while.

In the design shown here, the front is ornamented by pleats, and prettily shaped collars, which use is optional. Then another pretty feature is the little vest

which should be made of Persian embroidery. The sleeve is a pleated model, which may be left flowing as illustrated, or gathered into a band. A modish idea is to have the sleeve in loose flowing style and line it with ruffles of lace or Swiss. For a smart little jacket, this is a good model to follow. The style is assured, the cut of the pattern is strictly up-to-date, and the ingenious woman who will spend a few hours in sewing, could develop a most satisfactory garment. Voile, moire, peau de sole, pongee, or any of the fashionable dress materials are suggested.

Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

Ladies' Blouse.

No. 6171—All the adjectives that can be applied to the beautiful are brought into requisition for the description of the new blouses. There are full blouses, tucked blouses, and shirred blouses, but the characteristic feature of them all is the sloping shoulder; not the exaggerated line of some time ago, but the cut of both shoulder and sleeve adds breadth as well as length.

A style that bids fair to be most popular is that of the tucked style with Raglan sleeve. It is a model that is equally good for cotton or silk and the panel front formed by backward turning tucks affords

good foundation for trimming. The back has a simulated box pleat and the blouse may be drawn down tight or bloused all the way round. For a pretty stylish waist this is to be recommended.

Sizes—32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

Ladies' Shirt Waist or Blouse.

No. 6168—Blouses made with the broad shoulder are exceedingly smart and generally becoming, and, just now, are greatly in vogue. The design shown here is an

original one, having a tucked blouse front over which is worn the tab bertha, which forms a smartly shaped yoke in the back. A very pretty cuff gives a stylish finish to the bishop sleeve. The blouse would be attractive in any of the colored linens with accessories of white pipings around the bertha and white cuffs and collar.

The model is one that is suitable to nearly all the fancy waistings, in both the cotton, silk and lightweight woolens. It is a very good model to follow for the blouse in a shirt waist suit. It is especially pretty in taffeta, outlining the yoke and tucks in plain color or white.

Sizes—32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and the bust measure also.

Address as follows, including price of pattern ordered, Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

DOWNFALL OF MIRSKY

May Result From Present Conditions in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 21.—The delay in the issuance of the imperial manifesto outlining reforms has led to the wildest rumors according to which Emperor Nicholas has turned back on the idea of making any concessions, the immediate downfall of Interior Minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky is imminent and the prospective nomination of Lieutenant General Kleigels, governor general of Kieff, as his successor may be looked for.

These reports, according to the Associated Press information, are entirely without foundation. It is beyond question that measures shortly to be announced will be entirely unsatisfactory to the extremists and to many Liberals, who will be content with nothing less than a complete revolution of the government.

The proposition for a constitution and the convocation of a national assembly, the emperor, after careful consultation with his ministers and other visitors has rejected as impracticable and impossible under the existing conditions, but what is termed a definite program of rational measures of reform, in the direction of liberality, has been decided upon and shortly will be announced.

At the same time, in order to put a stop to the ferment into which the country has been thrown by the present agitation, the announcement will be made in such a fashion as to leave the people under no illusion regarding the government's position.

Want Action Taken.

Chernigoff, Russia, Dec. 21.—The local zemstvo has telegraphed to the emperor strong resolutions begging him in the most loyal manner to convoke legally elected members of the zemstvos to present a program of reforms for his consideration.

ALFONSO HIT PAVEMENT

Wheel of His Motor Car Came Off and Overturned Machine.

Madrid, Dec. 24.—King Alfonso had a narrow escape while riding in a motor car on the Prado yesterday. A wheel of the car which he was driving suddenly broke and the car overturned, but the king escaped uninjured. King Alfonso is an exceptionally daring driver and his motoring exploits are a constant source of anxiety to the queen mother and the minister. He has a predilection for long trips, generally acting as his own chauffeur.

Recently the king announced his intention of making, unattended, a motor car tour throughout his dominions, but the plan was dropped, because Senor Maura, who then was premier, threatened to resign, as he feared an anarchist outrage. The king has had several narrow escapes.

MEDIATION NOT LIKELY

Ambassador Hardinge Denies Significance of Call Recently Made.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 24.—Ambassador Hardinge, whose visit to Foreign Minister Lamsdorff on Wednesday, taken in conjunction with Ambassador Benkendorff's audience of King Edward Thursday gave rise to suggestions of another attempt at mediation, authorized the Associated Press to say that the interview with County Lamsdorff was without special significance. The ambassador called on the foreign minister in the ordinary way about purely current matters. Ambassador Hardinge has not the slightest reason to believe that mediation would be any more acceptable to Russia now than hitherto.

THE OFFICIAL COUNT

Of the Vote Cast for President on November 8.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The official canvass of the votes cast November 8, for presidential electors, has been completed by the announcement of results in Minnesota, North Dakota and Washington. The Associated Press is therefore able to present the first table giving the official vote of all the forty-five states. The total is 13,508,496; against 13,968,574 in 1900—a decrease of 460,078.

The ballots were divided as follows:
Roosevelt, Republican, 7,627,632.
Parker, Democrat, 5,080,054.
Debs, Socialist, 391,587.
Swallow, Prohibitionist, 260,303.
Watson, Peoples, 114,637.
Corregan, Socialist Labor, 33,453.
Holcomb, Continental Labor, 830.

Roosevelt received over all 1,746,768 and over Parker 2,547,578. In 1900 McKinley had 467,046 more than all the other candidates, and 859,984 more than Bryan.

The vote for Roosevelt was 409,822 more than for McKinley, while that for Parker was 1,277,772 less than for Bryan.

McKinley polled more votes than Roosevelt in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Lonisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Carolina South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Roosevelt got more than McKinley in the other 32 states.

Parker received more votes than Bryan in Delaware, Georgia, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina and West Virginia, while Bryan got more than Parker in the remaining 37 states.

The Republicans made gains over their vote of 1900 in 32 states, and the official figures show losses in 13. The total gains of the Republicans were 732,048, and the total losses 312,249; net gain 429,709.

The Democrats polled more votes in eight states than in 1900, but less in 37. Their total gains were 30,792, and the total losses 1,291,491; net loss 1,260,699.

Roosevelt carried 32 states, against 28 by McKinley, and has 336 electoral votes under the apportionment of 1900. McKinley had 292 under the apportionment of 1880, there having been an addition of 29 by the last apportionment.

Parker carried 13 states, against 17 by Bryan, and has 140 electoral votes. Bryan had 155 under the apportionment in force in 1900.

Watson received his largest vote in Georgia, the total of that state, 22,634, with 20,508 in Nebraska, being nearly one-third of his aggregate, 114,637. Barker polled 50,218 in 1900.

The Prohibition vote in 1900 was 208,-791; in November 260,303; a gain of 51,512.

Four years ago the Socialists had an electoral ticket in 32 states, and polled 87,769 votes. This year they had a ticket in the 45 states, and the Debs vote was 391,587. In 1900 over 5,000 votes were polled in only California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri and New York. In November Debs got over 5,000 in California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin—the largest number, 69,225, in Illinois.

The vote of the Socialist Labor party in 1900 was 39,944. This year it was 33,453.

The following table shows the gains and losses of the two parties named, in the different states, compared with the vote of 1900:

	Republican. Gain.	Loss.	Democratic. Gain.	Loss.
Alabama	.....	33,162	.....	16,516
Arkansas	2,060	.....	.....	16,708
California	40,471	.....	.....	35,691
Colorado	41,615	.....	.....	22,628
Connecticut	8,529	.....	.....	1,088
Delaware	1,185	.....	502	.....
Florida	895	.....	.....	1,214
Georgia	.....	1,032	1,772	.....
Idaho	20,585	.....	.....	10,934
Illinois	34,990	.....	.....	175,455
Indiana	33,226	.....	.....	35,239
Iowa	99	.....	.....	57,024
Kansas	24,918	.....	.....	77,801
Kentucky	.....	21,674	.....	17,729
Louisiana	.....	9,028	.....	5,963
Maine	.....	998	.....	9,192
Maryland	.....	26,705	.....	12,825
Massachusetts	18,856	.....	8,747	.....
Michigan	45,597	.....	.....	77,534
Minnesota	26,190	.....	.....	57,714
Mississippi	.....	2,606	1,674	.....
Missouri	7,356	.....	.....	46,075
Montana	9,019	.....	.....	15,573
Nebraska	16,723	.....	.....	62,177
Nevada	2,007	.....	.....	2,394
New Hampshire	.....	624	.....	1,584
New Jersey	23,457	.....	.....	242
New York	37,541	.....	5,596	.....
North Carolina	.....	50,639	.....	31,631
North Dakota	16,704	.....	.....	6,266
Ohio	56,178	.....	.....	120,208
Oregon	13,929	.....	.....	15,864
Pennsylvania	128,284	.....	.....	86,234
Rhode Island	7,821	.....	5,027	.....
South Carolina	.....	1,308	5,430	.....
South Dakota	17,547	.....	.....	17,542
Tennessee	.....	15,835	.....	12,095
Texas	.....	79,333	.....	100,202
Utah	15,305	.....	.....	11,593
Vermont	4,114	.....	.....	3,072
Virginia	.....	69,415	.....	65,442
Washington	44,048	.....	.....	16,735
West Virginia	12,766	.....	2,145	.....
Wisconsin	14,296	.....	.....	35,178
Wyoming	5,972	.....	.....	3,368
Total	732,048	312,249	30,792	1,291,491

RAIN BREAKS THE DROUGHT

Southern Ohio Still Needs More Water However.

Columbus, O., Dec. 24.—An all night's rain stopped today at 7 o'clock, making a total precipitation since yesterday of .69. There was a precipitation of .46 during the night. The rain was general throughout this district and farmers report that the drouth is partly over and their wells and streams are filling up. They say still more rain is needed.

Cincinnati, Dec. 24.—Rain, which finally broke the four months' drouth, continued to fall today. Rain was reported both down and up the river, all points as far up as Oil City, Pa., reported good rains, and better river conditions seem assured. A slightly higher stage of the river was reported at upriver points today before the full effect of the rain could be felt. Several coal fleets are being held for higher water and local dealers hope for early relief from the present coal shortage.

At Maysville, Ky., the ice which had been gorged for some time, was dislodged by rain and high water. Ferryboats between Maysville and Aberdeen have resumed their trips.

FINE SEAMENSHP, THIS.

Captain of Atlas Will Tow Barge From New York to California.

New York, Dec. 24.—Local mariners say that the task of towing a laden barge from New York to the California coast, which was begun last week, is the first time that such a feat has been attempted. The barge and the steamship which tows it, the Standard Oil company's tank Atlas, both carry oil, and the barge's portion of the cargo is about 6,000 tons in bulk. The cargo of the Atlas will be used as fuel on the voyage.

It is expected that the trip will occupy from seventy to eighty days, and it is the intention to avoid doubling Cape Horn by going through the Straits of Magellan. The success with which the Standard Oil company has met in towing barges from the Gulf of Mexico to New York led to consideration of the present project.

THE WORK OF WOMEN.

Denver, Col., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Sarah Platt Decker, president of the National Federation of Women's clubs, announced today that she had practically completed arrangements for the establishment of a bureau of information. Information concerning the work of women in this country, their clubs and all the matters in which they are interested will be collected and disseminated.

Outlines for study will also be prepared. It is said the headquarters will be at Portsmouth, N. H.

DR. CHADWICK INDICTED

To Be Placed Under Arrest Upon Arrival.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 23.—Dr. Leroy S. Chadwick, rushing home from Europe to be at the side of his wife in the hour of her distress, will meet with a sorry reception when his steamer reaches the port of New York. An officer will arrest him before he touches land, and he will find himself enmeshed in the same legal net which has been thrown over the dauntless woman.

Dr. Chadwick was indicted by the county grand jury yesterday afternoon. The charge is forgery, exactly the same as that which confronts Mrs. Chadwick. The Chadwicks were jointly indicted in connection with the $5,000,000 note which was the principal "security" that Ira Reynolds of the Wade Park bank held as Mrs. Chadwick's working capital.

Dr. Chadwick will be close at his wife's side in her trouble, all right, but not in exactly the sentimental way he has figured on. In the first place it will be the common trouble of both, and in addition to that, it will be Dr. Chadwick who will have to do some of the explaining himself.

The grand jury's report, in returning a true bill against him with a count not only for uttering, but for forging the bogus note as well, charges Chadwick with being more than an accomplice of his wife, or an aider and abetter in her financial manipulations. By bringing the direct charge of forgery against him the grand jury raises the presumption that its evidence against the doctor is exactly the same, and precisely as strong as that against Mrs. Chadwick.

It was supposed by some of Dr. Chadwick's friends that he might have suffered himself to be dragged into more or less of his wife's transactions, but the supposition has always been strongly in his behalf and has concerned only the possibility of his becoming deeply enough involved in the evidence to cause a charge of aiding and abetting his wife.

Newton to Sue Dr. Chadwick.

Boston, Dec. 23.—On behalf of Herbert D. Newton, it is authoritatively stated that civil proceedings in his interests will be instituted against Dr. Leroy S. Chadwick upon the latter's return to this country. The action will be brought for the recovery on paper given by Dr. Chadwick to Mr. Newton, and having a face value of $90,000.

Mr. Newton has cabled to Southampton and satisfied himself that Dr. Chadwick is a passenger on the Hamburg-American line steamer Pretoria, which has sailed for New York.

WILL PART WITH CHILD

Wife of "Lord Barrington" Advertises for Adopted Parents.

New York, Dec. 22.—For Adoption—A family to adopt good, bright, cultured, talented girl of 13; highest refences. Address Mrs. Barton, 36 Columbia Heights.

Her fortune dissipated by her husband, the notorious "Lord Barrington," now under sentence of death in St. Louis, and finding it impossible to educate her child, little Elaine Elizabeth Barton, who had been admired and petted by Miss Ellen Terry, actress, Mrs. Barton, who was Celestine Elizabeth Miller, and who now is housekeeper for Josiah White, a wealthy resident of Brooklyn, has inserted the foregoing advertisement in the hope that some well to do person may become interested and provide a home for the little girl.

Mrs. Barton, refined and educated, is almost heartbroken at the prospect of losing her child, but she believes it will be for the best interests of the little one if she can find for her a good home, and perhaps a patron, that will enable Elaine to finish her education began early with a view of fitting her for the stage.

When Miss Terry was in Brooklyn five or six years ago little Elaine danced, sang and recited before her, and Miss Terry was so impressed with the child's native talent that she gave her a photo-

ELAINE ELIZABETH BARTON

graph of herself in the character of Portia, and predicted that some day Elaine might be as great an actress herself.

Miss Terry's words spurred the mother's ambitions, and her life has been one of sacrifice for her child. With no one to aid her, however, life had been a series of constant struggles and some time ago she was forced to take service at Mr. White's home.

Barton is supposed to have had many wives. He married a Canadian woman in 1902, and deserted her after two days. He married Wilhelmina Grace Cockran, in St. Louis, in 1903, and a week later was sent to prison for six months. Then came his arrest for the murder of his patron, James P. McCann, and for this crime he now awaits execution in the Four Courts prison.

CONGRATULATE PRESIDENT

Southern Railroad Men Extend Enthusiastic Invitation to Him.

Fort Worth, Tex., Dec. 24.—One thousand employes of the Texas & Pacific railroad residing in this city have extended an invitation to President Roosevelt to visit Fort Worth. After assuring him of a hearty welcome from their branch of industry, the invitation concluded:

"We further express our gratitude for your recommendation to congress for the better regulation of railroads and shortening the hours of employes, and we further hope that your life will be spared to see the crowning glory of your administration accomplished — the Panama canal."

VAN SANT A CANDIDATE

Says He Will Go In to Finish for Minnesota Senatorship.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 24.—Governor Van Sant has announced his formal entry into the senatorial campaign of Minnesota as a successor to Senator Clapp. He is quoted as saying that he had been abused and villified by certain parties in the state and that he had just one more fight in view.

He said he was going into the campaign to fight it out to the finish.

FAIRBANKS' NIECE HURT

Accidentally Drove Long Hatpin Through Her Own Eye.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 24.—In consequence of a remarkable accident, Miss Jennie Fairbanks, of Mansfield, a niece of Vice President-elect Fairbanks, has been brought to a hospital here. While putting on her hat with a hatpin in one hand, a friend accidentally jostled Miss Fairbanks' arm, and as a result the pin was buried in Miss Fairbanks' eye.

A strong effort will be made to save the sight.

SULTAN BANKS PROGRESS

United States of America, England, France, Germany, Russia and Italy Can Do Nothing.

Boston, Dec. 24.—The annual report of the American Board of Foreign Missions contains many interesting figures. The total amount of disbursements during the past year was $748,308, an increase over the previous year of $7,785, and the excess of expenditures above receipts was $22,737. The tendency of expenditures is upward even while the basis of appropriations for general work remains the same.

This year the increase was due largely to the new efforts to enlarge the constituency through the young people's department. The additions to the conditional gift fund were $71,426. The fund which six years ago was only $124,000, now amounts to $462,283.

The regular work of the European Turkey mission has been no less disturbed in the year under review than for the last three years. In some respects the disturbances have been mode critical. The Turkish villages suffered from the depredations of the insurgents and the Christian villages from the Turkish troops. The present prospect for political quiet is more encouraging than a year ago. The report says:

"The last year has witnessed the continuance of the efforts of our government to secure the authoritive recognition of American institutions and of American citizens in the empire, which Turkey has long since conceded to the institutions and citizens of France, Germany, Russia, Italy and England, strangely, thus far without success. There is no abatement in the demand which our government makes. There is the definite purpose to secure what is our manifest right, and unreasonable delay on the part of Turkey will only heighten the pressure and call forth whatever measures may prove to be needful.

"In the ordinary proceedings of the year friendly relations have been maintained, many wrongs have been righted and there is great occasion for recognizing the hearty appreciation, the success of the legation and the steadfast support of the government."

WAS A FAMOUS ADMIRAL

Active Career of Late Sir Erasmus Ommanney.

The death of Admiral Sir Erasmus Ommanney, "Father of the British Navy," marks the end of a brilliant career, begun at sea at the age of twelve years.

Admiral Ommanney was born in 1814, and entered the navy in 1826. He was

ADMIRAL SIR ERASMUS OMMANNEY.
FROM THE SKETCH.

the last survivor of the famous battle of Navarino, in which the Turkish fleet was destroyed in 1827.

Sir Erasmus served as midshipman on the Albion, which was between two hot fires in the battle of Navarino. He volunteered in 1838 for the Ross expedition to relieve the whaling fleet imprisoned in the ice of Baffin's Bay, and was commended by the admiralty for his services. He was a captain in 1850, when he was second in command of Captain Austin's expedition in search of the Arctic explorer, Franklin, and was the first to discover traces of the lost ships after traveling five hundred miles on sledges.

During the Crimean war he commanded the White sea expedition, and in 1867 commanding the British ships in Central American waters, co-operated with United States vessels in suppressing the Walker filibustering expedition. He was later in charge of the naval station at Gibraltar.

He was knighted in 1877 for his Arctic services and was made a Fellow of the Royal Geographical society. He was one of the oldest members of the Royal Geographical society and was active to the last in his scientific researches and interest. He retired from the navy in 1874, after forty-eight years of active service.

BONDS WERE FRAUDULENT

Haytien Court Finds Number of Officials Guilty.

Port Au Prince, Hayti, Dec. 26.—In accordance with the verdict of the jury in the trial of the alleged fraudulent bond case, the court has pronounced judgment as follows:

It acquits Hebard Roy, former minister of finance, and two high officials; condemns Vilbrun Guillaume, former minister of war, to penal servitude for life; the high officials of the National Bank of Hayti are sentenced to four years' imprisonment and two sons of former President Sam M. Gedeon, a former minister, and Saint Victor, former minister of foreign affairs, to three years' imprisonment.

The action against the above mentioned persons grew out of an act of the Haytien congress of 1902, authorizing the consolidation of the national debt in a bond issue of about $6,000,000, and an additional $213,282 to be paid the bank for financing the deal. Before the transaction was completed the government of President Nord came into power. The bank officials were imprisoned a year ago on a charge of conspiring with the secretary of the treasury in fraudulently issuing from $200,000 to $850,000 in bonds and of alleged bribery.

The trial began November 28, and of the thirty-three persons accused, among whom were ex-President Sam, thirteen were present, the others having fled.

FINNISH CONSTITUTION

Diet Decides to Ask Emperor to Initiate New Measures.

Helsingfors, Finland, Dec. 24.—The majority of the special committee of the Finnish diet appointed to report on the petition that steps be taken to re-establish the Finnish constitution, has reported in its favor, the diet leaving it to Emperor Nicholas to initiate the measures, necessary in the re-establishment of the constitution, administration and legal order of things in Finland.

The minority recommends that the emperor submit to the diet as soon as possible a new form of government based on lines that have hitherto proved satisfactory and the decree of April 2, 1902, be immediately repealed as well as the coercive measure taken against communes and individuals.

LIKE AN OLD STORY.

Depositions of Fishermen Are Not Unfamiliar.

London, Dec. 23.—The publication in St. Petersburg of the statement that Hull fishermen have voluntarily deposed that foreign torpedo boats were among the trawlers off Dogger bank when the latter were fired upon by ships of the Russian Baltic squadron is probably nothing more than a repetition of similar statements emanating from Hull and appearing in London papers the last few days.

These are circumstantial, and it would certainly appear to be true that some men of the gamecock fleet have made statements before the Russian consul.

The name of only one of these has been revealed. He is the boatswain of the trawler Tva. He says that he was induced to make the statement while he was intoxicated. He admits that he received a certain amount of money, but now says the statement he made is untrue.

The exact tenor of his statement or any others has not been revealed. All published reports from Hull say positively that these statements were secured by two agents of the Russian government, but the Russian embassy in London tonight repeated the denial communicated to The Associated Press on December 21, that there is absolutely no truth that Russia has made any attempt to induce fishermen to make statements. He says that when informed of the nature of the statement the boatswain of the Ava intended to make, it was his duty to his government to render every assistance.

Altogether an air of mystery surrounds the matter, but no credence in responsible quarters is given to the allegations that unfair methods have been used by the Russian government.

REPORTS FOR CZAR.

Bordeaux, Dec. 23.—Four Russian naval officers bearing despatches from Vice Admiral Rojestvensky, have arrived here on board the Messageries Maritime packet. Lieutenant Valrond, of the torpedo depot ship Kamchatka, was interview and said that he was conveying to Emperor Nicholas the reports of the commanders of the warships that were present at the Dogger bank incident, together with Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's report. He also was taking for investigation by the international commission at Paris, the original tapes of the wireless instruments, showing the messages that were exchanged between vessels of the Baltic squadron at the time of the firing upon the fishing fleet.

Lieutenant Valrond says he worked the searchlights aboard the Kamchatka and that he saw plainly two four-funneled torpedo boats, their color being a dirty gray, whereas the Russian torpedo boats were black. When he perceived these boats pursuing the squadron the order to fire was given.

Paris, Dec. 23.—Rear Admiral Davis, the American member of the international commission of inquiry into the North Sea incident, today continued making calls on cabinet officers. Admiral Campion received and entertained Admiral Davis at the ministry of marine in the absence of Marine Minister Pellatin, who was attending a meeting of the council of ministers.

BLOWN TO ATOMS.

Acadia Powder Co.'s Plant Is Destroyed.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 26.—A terrific explosion shook the city of Halifax today, the buildings rocking as if affected by an earthquake.

A report reached here from Waverly, 10 miles away that the concussion was caused by the blowing up of the plant of the Acadia Powder company at that place.

A telephone message from Waverly later confirmed the report that the powder works had blown up. It was believed that several lives were lost.

The explosion occurred in the dry house of the plant, which contained 700 cases of pellet powder.

A number of workmen were about the premises before the explosion took place.

SICK OF THE DOWIE CULT

Young English Woman Leaves Her Husband in Zion.

London, Dec. 22.—According to a dispatch in the Daily Mail from Geneva, Mrs. Gladstone Dowie (Ruth Hofer), after a five months' stay in Zion City, has left her husband and returned to her home. It is alleged that she found young Dowie was not in love with her, but thought considerable of her money.

The dispatch continues:

"Her married life was unhappy. She found herself, instead of being a wife, in reality an upper servant.

"Neglect and continual hypocrisy opened her eyes to the true state of affairs, and Dowie's posing as the restored Elijah was the last straw.

"She determined to quit Zion City at all costs. The Dowies at first firmly refused to let her go, but she threatened to run away, and finally they gave in.

"Her mother sent her money, and, disillusioned, broken in health and spirit, she arrived at her old home the other day.

"Her brothers, who are wealthy manufacturers in Geneva, are delighted to see their sister out of the clutches of the Dowies."

LIGHT JAIL SENTENCES

Are Meted Out to Participants in Kischineff Massacre.

Kischineff, Dec. 24.—Sentences have been pronounced upon the persons found guilty of participation in the anti-Jewish riots here in May, 1903. Seventeen of them were sentenced to 170 days' imprisonment, two to 80 days and eleven were acquitted.

LADIES My Regulator never fails. Box FREE. DR. F. MAY, Box 32 Bloomington, Ill.

LADIES in need send for a FREE TRIAL. Never-failing Monthly Remedy relieves the most obstinate case. F.E. KARN CO., Dept. 25, Buffalo, N.Y.

FITS CURED EPILEPSY

I have devoted the past thirty years of my life to curing Fits, Epilepsy or Falling Sickness, and have effected cures in thousands of cases where all other remedies have failed. In order to prove the efficacy of my treatment, I will send a Free Bottle of my wonderful remedy to all sufferers of this dread disease who will write, giving Express and Post-Office address. H. G. ROOT, M. C., 183 Pearl Street, New York.

PICTURE PAINTING TAUGHT—83 course 50 cts. postpaid. G. P. Harper Co., Advance, Ill.

Virginia Farms

Best on earth for the money. Free catalogue. R. B. CHAFFIN & CO., Incorp., Richmond, Va.

AERONAUT KNABENSHUE

Makes Successful Flight at Baldwin's Home.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 25.—Captain Baldwin's airship "California Arrow," driven by Roy Knabenshue, of Toledo, O., who made several successful flights in the same airship from the World's Fair grounds at St. Louis, was given its first trial in California yesterday and was successful with the single exception of its failure to land at the starting point.

A landing was effected half a mile away without damage to the machine, and it was safely towed back to its anchorage.

The Arrow started from Chutes' park baseball grounds, in the southern part of the city at 3:17 p. m., sailed with the wind northeastward for a distance of between eight and ten miles, thence eastward for two miles and returned in the face of a twelve mile gale to a point directly above the starting place.

Owing to the supply of gasoline running short, Knabenshue was unable to effect a landing at exactly the desired spot.

From the time the airship arose from the baseball grounds until it was safely anchored at Pico and Stanford streets, it was in flight an hour and thirteen minutes, and in that time sailed a distance of probably twenty miles.

When flying with the wind the Arrow traveled at a speed of twenty miles an hour, and returning directly in the face of the strong southeastern gale was able to make a rate of speed reckoned at between six and eight miles an hour.

The airship was maneuvered by Knabenshue in every direction, responding readily to its rudder, circling and turning in any direction, sailing directly in the face of the wind or at any angle, and rising and dipping as the operator directed.

The Arrow rose at times to a height of probably 3,000 feet or more, with Knabenshue regulating the height by shifting his weight and raising or lowering the bow of the craft as he desired to ascend or descend.

FIRE AT S

A Happy New Year To All

Emily S. Bouton, Editor.

Keynotes of Harmony

WEDNESDAY.

It is well to make a good resolution on New Year's day, if it be done with sincerity. It is better to keep it.

THURSDAY.

I will devote the coming year to service to others, being sure that such service is based upon my own duties faithfully done.

FRIDAY.

Do not look back upon the mistakes of last year. They are gone, but the present is in your hands to make it what you will.

SATURDAY.

"Patience gives a big push to any purpose." Remember this when you see the month rushing by and the thing you hoped for seeming to be still in the distance. Work on cheerfully, believing in final victory.

SUNDAY.

Do right and in the coming year God will reward you by giving increased power to do more right. Give, and God's recompense will be the Spirit of God himself, whose life is the blessedness of giving.

MONDAY.

Do your best loyally and cheerfully and suffer yourself to feel no anxiety or fear. Your times are in God's hands.

TUESDAY.

From the lowest depth there is a path to the loftiest height. If you are not in it now, turn today and go forward.

Something About the "Mountain Folk"

EMILY S. BOUTON.

The mountain folk of Kentucky and Tennessee!

How little we know of their lives and their character!

I was reading the other day that in no country in the world is there such a wide diversity of people as in the United States. Apparently they are one, governed by the same general laws and working to the same purpose. In reality, there are whole communities as far apart from the majority as can well be imagined. Elsewhere the process of assimilation has gone rapidly forward. In these places it has made almost no headway.

One of the localities where the people are so wholly different from those we know best are the mountains of Kentucky and Tennessee. Writers of fiction, like Charles Egbert Craddock, have brought these "mountain folk" within sight of the dwellers of the plain, but that is all. We do not and cannot understand the main-

"CLOVER BOTTOM CABIN," BEREA COLLEGE.

spring of their lives, of what underlies these terrible feuds which sometimes desolate and destroy homes, filling every day with an absolute uncertainty as to whether another morning's sun will rise upon them in their accustomed places, or shine down upon their lifeless bodies. And yet there is a courage, a daring, and a rough loyalty which often covers a warm heart, that we cannot help admiring.

Life at its best is hard and comfortless in these mountains. Few among the people can read, and their knowledge of the outside world is exceedingly limited. I mind me a this moment of the mountaineer who met a stranger following a trail up the deep hillside and forgetting the usual reticence of these people, fell to asking of the world beyond, that where the great cities had their being. And this was one question put with an earnest gravity that prohibited a smile:

"Say, stranger, kin you tell me if Andy Jackson is runnin' for president agin this fall?"

This is a fact, laughable on the one side, pathetic upon the other. When one remembers that there are no schools for the children; no books and no pictures; that everything is of the crudest kind; that they have nothing in common with ourselves except the feelings and emotions that belong to all human kind, it does not seem so strange.

The club women of some of the cities of those states have taken the matter in hand and are working to gain the confidence of these people, giving them messages from the "other world" of which they know so little, in the shape of books and pictures, here and there establishing schools where they learn those things which will help to make the homes more pleasant and comfortable. It is said that the hunger of some for knowledge is pitiful.

In this connection I have become much interested in the work of Berea college for the mountain folk. "This is the institution, it will be remembered, whose very existence was attacked last year by hostile legislation, which threatened to put an end to the good it is accomplishing where it is sadly needed. The teaching there is adapted to the mountain region and its people, who "have been shown how to have a rotation of crops, and how to gather chestnuts without cutting down the trees." In other words, Berea has given them some idea of how to make the most of their circumstances and environment. It would be shameful beyond measure if prejudice and politics should succeed in destroying the usefulness of this institution. It is to be hoped that it will be prevented by its friends.

One part of its work that was of special interest to me was what is being done for the women in their far off mountain homes. Through the club women we have learned before of what is named the fireside industries. These are the spinning and weaving of cloths, and the making of blankets and rugs, just such as our own foremothers made years and years ago. In these later years people buy their productions for use in summer cottages, and Berea has not only taught the better methods by offering prizes for what reaches their standard of best workmanship, but it has also brought a market to their doors.

Clover Bottom Cabin is the headquarters of these fireside industries. It was erected for a Baptist church-house fifteen miles away from Berea, and is made of fine poplar saw logs. Ere it was finished, a sawmill came into the neighborhood, and the people desired the far less picturesque "sawed stuff" house. Two years ago the logs were drawn to Berea, put together again, roof, chimney and porch added, and this, with another log house, said to be a hundred years old, makes the fireside industry headquarters, which "shelters looms, spinning wheels, reels, cording tools, and other wonderful relics still in use!"

It seems almost impossible to realize that so primitive a people are living, it might be said almost in our midst, at the beginning of this twentieth century. The fact, however, that they are turning towards the light which education may bring to them, and more significant still, that their need is felt by those of greater opportunities, shows that the way is opening to better conditions for these people in whom are said to be qualities which make for useful citizenship. The thought for their betterment shows that more and more is that sentiment growing which Edward Everett Hale describes in his poem, Open the Door of Your Heart. The last stanza gives the keynote to his thought:

Open the door of your heart, my friend,
Heedless of class or creed,
When you hear the cry of a brother's voice
The sob of a child in need,
To the shining heaven that o'er you bends
You need no map or chart,
But only the love the Master gave,
Open the door of your heart.

The Cozy Corner

A CHRISTMAS SUGGESTION, GOOD AT ANY TIME.

I will tell the maids and matrons of the Cozy Corner how we made some pretty hanging baskets which we used in our Christmas decorating last year, and we have some ready again for this year

We took some glass dishes—some were sauce dishes, and some were old-fashioned goblets with the stem broken—and crocheted bags of white cotton large enough to cover them, with cords by which to hang them up.

In the dishes we placed some pounded charcoal, enough to about half fill the dish, and then filled it with water. Over the top of each dish so prepared, I tied a piece of mosquito netting and on this placed sweet peas. The baskets were hung in sunny windows and the water kept up to the cloth; this was all the care they needed and in a very few days the peas sprouted and we could see the delicate roots going down to the charcoal, while the vines—and later the flowers—made a beautiful ornament for the windows.

The same effect can be produced by using morning glory seeds, and by building a trellis of twine, across the windows, the vines will soon cover it. In cold days or nights, a thickness of paper should be placed between the plants, and the glass of the window, for protection.—E. V. W., Oregon.

A DISAPPOINTED WOMAN.

It may be bad taste, but I hope you will forgive me, if I tell you of how very much disappointed I was one Christmas—I will not say how recently.

I was not able to give anything expensive myself, but I had managed my "butter and egg money" so well that I had some little remembrance for each of my family and a few of my dearest friends outside of the family.

Christmas came, and so did the gifts, and for my share I had, first, from my husband, a good, dark, wool dress pattern—something I needed very much. The children each gave me something according to their very slender means, even the two-year-old baby gave me the remains of a candy apple which had been given her, and which, minus a number of small bites that she had taken—was "as good as new." So far all right.

The day before Christmas came a letter from a far-away-cousin, far away in point of relationship—who sent me a cushion cover, with a hideous Indian head on it, and Indians in any shape are my abhorrence. Cousin Mary wrote that this cushion cover was the handiwork of her oldest daughter who sent it as a "forerunner" of herself, as she had wanted to visit in the country for a long time, and now was the accepted time for her, so she would probably be along in a few days after Christmas. The usual complimentary remarks about my "good cooking" and "the new milk and fresh eggs" were made, and the letter closed with the hope that "daughter Elizabeth" thought she might be able to bring home "some country" in her trunk. Eggs when they are scarcer than "hen's teeth" we hear about! New milk in the middle of the winter! Carry home "some country" in her trunk! And all this to pay for that miserable cushion cover!

The next gift was a glass sugar and creamer; this came from a neighbor, who said she had no use for it, and thought I might like to "change presents" with her, suggesting a new bed spread would be acceptable, though "most anything would do." The family had not gotten over their amusement about these "gifts," when the expressman brought a package on which seventy-five cents was due—which I paid. The package contained a pair of hideous Chinese vases from a woman who had visited us the previous summer. I should have appreciated them as a token of her gratitude for all we had done for her, if she had not spoiled it all by writing that she "hoped to see them in my parlor when she came next year." Where to place them—for they were very large, as well as very ugly—in our small rooms was a question which one of the boys solved by suggesting that they be placed on the gate posts next summer to scare visitors away.

Another of our city friends who had visited us, sent a box with some ribbons and handkerchiefs for the girls, a book for each of the boys, a pipe for the man of the house and a lovely lace trimmed handkerchief for me.

And there was no suggestion of coming again, but a very polite reference to the pleasure she had when with us. And that letter saved the day, as it proved to us that there was one woman who was a lady clear through, and who knew how to very gracefully return a favor.—M. K. D., Indiana.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Can any one tell me how to prepare buckwheat so it will be self-raising? And how can we preserve beef for summer use? We always kill one each winter, and would like to be able to keep some for tht summer.—Mara B. R.

Can anyone tell me how to remove iron rust from fine white goods without injuring the fabric.—Ella G.

The editor of The Household would like the names of all who are interested to know what the New Thought, so frequently spoken of, is.

The Blade reader who wrote inquiring about a biography of Helen Gould will find an article concerning Miss Gould in the January issue of Harper's Bazar, published by Harper & Brothers, New York City.

THE BLADE COOK

Mrs. Lizzie A. Miller, one of the good cooks of Ohio, sends this seasonable recipe for

Golden Gems.

One cupful of butter, one and a half cupfuls of sugar; cream them, add one teaspoonful sweet cream, one cupful stewed and strained pumpkin, one cupful oatmeal, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and flour enough to make a drop batter. Drop by spoonfuls into gem pans and bake in a quick oven.

Gelatine Filling for Cakes.

Dissolve two tablespoonfuls of granulated gelatine in cold water. Boil two cupfuls of sugar with one-half cupful of water until it will thread, then pour over the gelatine, beating it until thick and white. Chopped, preserved fruits, or nuts may be added if desired.

Caramel Frosting.

A cake frosting that will keep soft for a long time is made by cooking half a cupful of sugar to a caramel, add half a cupful of boiling water, stir and cook until a thick syrup is formed, then stir in half a teaspoonful of flavoring extract and sufficient confectioners' sugar to make a paste that will spread.

For chocolate caramel, pour the hot syrup over three tablespoonfuls of melted chocolate.

LISTENING TO THE NEW YEAR'S BELLS

—From The Housekeeper.

THE MERRY-GO-'ROUND PARTY

By an oversight, Em. T. Head's picture was left out of the M. G. R. column the day it was promised to appear. However, it is better late than never, so here is the portrait to enliven the New Year's Household.

Coming by "special delivery" in order that he may not be late at the party, "Zach Stubbs" is the first to arrive, and even though he should be the only one, he shall have a warm welcome.

Whew! Entirely out of breath and puffing like a steam engine. You need not giggle, Mr. "Green Mountain Boy." If you had bobbed up and down on a hand car all the way from the "Sucker State" you'd be puffing worse than two steam engines.

I had several presents with me when I started, but don't know how many fell off when we stopped in Hoosierdom to pick up "Indiana Wabash" and "Little Sister," and got bumped by a passenger train.

Let's see; here's a nice, big Philippine doll that can wink one eye and cry beautifully, for "Em T. Head," and here is a candy cane for "Brown Eyes" to extract sweetness from while he explains to "Coralyn" how easily a country boy can give his pocketbook a bad case of "thins" while passing down the Pike.

Here's a red and green monkey that climbs a string, to amuse "Bookie," and a nice picture book for "Bessie Bell." I have a "Blue House Cook Book" for "Isabel," but I have a notion not to give it to her since her hubby was so smart when I came in, all out of breath; she oughter train him better.

And what is this? Oh, yes; I know. Come here, "Oregon Bach," and I'll give it to you while the others are not looking. I dare not tell what it is, as the subject has been tabooed in the Circle, but you can spell it with these letters—"riths." Mrs. "Stubbs" made it, so I know it is O. K.

I brought a couple of peanuts for "Make Haste," but as I do not see him anywhere I will give them to "Bonnie Burnie" to use in keeping her family quiet ("Truth Seeker" was always fidgetty), while "New England Girl" gives us a lengthy discourse on "How to Run Farms, Schools and Husbands in Any Climate."

Yes, I know there are others waiting for the floor, so I'll sit down and discuss the coming (?) third chapter of that serial story with Miss Prudence.

I hope the ladies have brought some good things to eat, for I am as hungry as —well, as a boy, and I might mention that I dearly love PIE.—"Zack Stubbs."

In our town just before Christmas, there is a marked increase in the attendance at the various Sunday schools; some of the children—mostly boys, if you please "John, Jr." and Mr. "Zack Stubbs"—indeed, some of them develop such strong Sunday School longings that they will attend both those held in the morning, and those that meet after service. It is also noticed that this zeal dies out soon after the Christmas Tree has done bearing fruit. These children are known as "Christmas Bummers" and are not overly welcome to the teachers of the schools, though of course we are glad to have them come, even for a week or two.

It has been so long since I visited the M. G. R. that I almost hesitated to come to Miss Prudence's party, lest I might be classed as a—well I won't hurt my feelings by mentioning what. I thought maybe you would admit me while I told you of a Christmas service I attended.

The service commenced at half past eleven o'clock on the night before Christmas. The church was beautiful with the Christmas greens festooning the chancel; the bright lights and flowers—everything that could show love and reverence for the house of God. The service was very solemn and beautiful, and just at twelve o'clock the members of the church went forward to the chancel rail and received the Holy Eucharist.

Can you imagine the scene? The bright church, the kneeling worshipers, the soft notes of the organ sounding that most appropriate of all hymns—"O, Little Town of Bethlehem," while over all was the hush of the Christmas morning. It seemed, indeed, as if the presence of the Lord could be felt, and all present, whether they agreed in all things with that congregation, could not but feel the inspiration of the place and the hour.

Returning to their places the congregation—without regard to their everyday church belief—joined in singing the Gloria in Excelsis, for in each heart was the feeling that prompted them to sing—"Glory to God on high, and on earth, peace, good will towards men." Then kneeling to receive the benediction of "the peace of God that passeth all understanding," we left the church quietly, our souls filled with the joy of communion with the Lord.

Outside the bright stars shone on the glittering snow, and made the scene one of beauty—another instance of the goodness of God toward men—and as the party separated with exchanges of good wishes for the Christmas that had just dawned, we went to our homes at peace with our own hearts and with the whole world.—"Missie," Ohio.

"Olive Branch" came in close behind Zack—he only preceded her so as to open the door for her:

M. G. R. friends, I think it was lovely of the Chaperon to let us have a New Year party. Don't you? We thank her for her kindness, and regret all the trouble we shall make.

I was very busy making Christmas gifts when I received my invitation, but decided to come, so here I am, wearing my prettiest dress, which I have already worn at two weddings—not my own, of course—for I expect to meet, not only my dear friends, but strangers from the North, South, East and West, and of course I want to look nice.

I have come prepared to entertain you with tableaux from two of Longfellow's poems—"Hiawatha's Wooing" and "The Famine"—that is, if a few of the company will volunteer to help me. All must be dressed in Indian costume, and the description of the scenes will be read immediately before the representation.

"Ozark Phil," would you impersonate the "Ancient Arrowmaker?" "Montem Rex," I suppose you are familiar with the character of "Hiawatha" and could be an Indian Brave as well as a King of the Mountains. "Minnehaha," we shall need you for your name-part. Who will take the part of "Old Nokomis." Then we need others for the voices of the forest, the wind and the water. These tableaux are very pretty and I am sure you will all enjoy them.

We all like to be remembered at the holiday time, with some little gift and I hope not one of our company will be forgotten. "Lena Rivers," please don't laugh at me because I have brought a tea cup and saucer for "Oregon Bach" it has this couplet attached:

When out of this cup you are drinking your tea,
Perhaps you will then think kindly of me.

Like Cinderella, I must reach home before the clock strikes twelve, so will say good night, and a Happy New Year to all, and

With a tiny wish from an old friend, and true,
That this year may be the happiest
That has ever come to you.—"Olive Branch."

"Indiana Rose" stops on her way home to dinner to promise us that she will come to the party, and do anything she can to make it a success.

Thank you. There is no doubt that you will find plenty to do when dinner is served, if not before, for Miss Prudence's boys have the name of being very hearty—when pie is in order.

HOPEFUL THOUGHTS

"If failure dull thy tools, be not dismayed;
Sharpen thy blunted chisel, sword, or wedge,
And dare to strike again; the keenest blade
Is seldom that one with the unworn edge."

—Coll.

In a recent number of Everybody's Magazine, Henry VanDyke has an article entitled "Is the World Growing Better." Several extracts from it are given today since they suggest thoughts especially appropriate to the season of rejoicing.

"When we say that a man grows better, we mean that in the main, he is becoming more just, and careful to do the right thing; more kind, and ready to do the helpful thing; more self-controlled, and willing to sacrifice his personal will to the general welfare. Is the world growing better in this sense? Is there more justice, more kindness, more self-restraint among the inhabitants of earth than in the days of old?

"First take the matter of justice. In Shakespeare's time a woman's existence in the eye of the law was merged in that of her husband. The very presents he gave her were still his property. He could beat her. He could deprive her of the guardianship of her children. Now the laws recognize her as a person entitled to work and receive wages, to dispose of her own earnings, to have an equal share with her husband in the guardianship of their children. Surely it is a great gain in justice, that a woman should be treated as a human being.

"Look at the broad field of what we may call international mercy. It has been estimated that since the days when the failure of the crops drove Abraham from Palestine down to Egypt to seek food for his starving people, there have been 350 great famines in various parts of the world. How many of the hungry nations received help from the outside world before the nineteenth century began? But now, within a week after the distress is known, money, food and help of all kinds begin to flow in from all quarters of the globe.

The Worth of a Smile.

"A smile so small
As mine, might be
Precisely their
Necessity."

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work ..... Henry
Solutions ..... Pauline

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Ireland in 1786, and died in West Virginia 1866. He emigrated to America in 1809 and settled in Washington county, Pennsylvania, near Bethany, West Virgina, which later became his home and where he died. For a time he was pastor of a Presbyterian church, but soon separated from the denomination on the grounds that the Bible should be the sole creed of the church. He became a Baptist in 1812, but he and his followers were excluded from the Baptist community, and in 1827 began to form themselves into a separate church.

HENRY.

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

The area of a rectangular field is 1575 rods, and if the length and the breadth were each lessened 5 rods, its area would be 1,200 sq. rds. What is its length and breadth?

NEMO.

3.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

X O O O X
X O O O X
X O O O X
X O O O X
X O O O X
X O O O X

1.—A test.
2.—A coloring shrub.
3.—Part of the harness of oxen.
4.—Places where money is coined.
5.—A celebrated French astronomer.
6.—A soiled spot; a blot.

Primals and finals give the name of a man who is posing just at present as an exposer of corporation frauds.

TERENCE.

4.—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 14 letters. My 13, 10, 3 indicates maturity; my 4, 12, 9, 1, is a coin; my 7, 5, 11 indicates cunning; my 14, 8, 6 is a kind of coffee; my 2, 13, 1 is a head covering. My whole will be with us just two days longer.

DODE.

5.—QUERY.

What bird has neither tail nor wings?

HAWKEYE.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote: "Every instance of violated conscience, like every broken string in a harp, will limit the compass of its music, and mar its harmonies forever."

METTA.

Answers to Puzzles of December 15.

1.—Matthew Arnold.
2.—10 persons.
3.—Words forming hour-glass: Invited, cents, odd, I, van, tenor, steamer. Centrals—Indiana.
4.—"Honor to those whose words and deeds
Thus help us in our daily needs.'
5.—John C. Fremont was called "The Pathfinder of the Rocky Mountains."
6.—Ben Johnson wrote:
"True happiness
Consists not in the multitude of friends,
But in their worth and choice."

Chat.

There were present at the 'Cademy this morning E. Sugden, Eliza McWilliams, Pauline, Chas. E. McCoy and Henry A. Winslow.

The three new-comers were heartily welcomed by the Schoolmistress, and made to feel perfectly at home by Pauline and H. A. Winslow, who have "been here before."

As two or three of the pupils have inquired concerning the prizes to be given from this department, the Schoolmistress rises to explain that the usual annual prizes for the scholar having the most good "marks" for correct solutions, and the one who has had the greatest amount of new work used in the Column during the year, will be awarded about the middle of January, when the credits will all have been "audited."

The special prize for Christmas Puzzle was won by "Mollie Moore," and will be forwarded to her when the other prizes are distributed.

Next year, in addition to the two annual prizes, a special will be given to the pupil who is "present at every session," that is to say, who sends in solutions every week. All work should be carefully dated, in order that due credit may be given in case the letters are delayed as is occasionally the case.

Now, with best wishes for the New Year, "school is out" for 1904.

Two Little Chinese Sisters

One day during the Chinese New Year, when the sea breezes blew softly through the narrow, blossom-lined streets of Chinatown in San Francisco and swayed the great red dragon lanterns to and fro, Poon Chew and her little sister, Poon Yet, decided that they would take a walk through the streets, and have a look at all the beautiful things displayed in the windows. Their Mo Chun, the Chinese name for mother, had dressed them up in their best silken robes—robes she had made for this very week—and they made a pretty picture as they started out under their gay umbrella. Their blouses were of pink silk, and their trousers of pale lavender. They wore gay head-dresses, and were indeed beautiful to look upon. They would never have started out alone if the little mo chun had not been so busy making the great New Year cake, which was to be served with tea to her guests of the New Year.

"Let's go see Sai Gee," said Poon Chow.

"All light," replied the little sister.

Sai Gee, a little-footed playmate of theirs, lived just a few doors from them, and they had no difficulty in finding her home. Sai Gee was also dressed up in her gayest attire, but her feet were too small to find much enjoyment in running around with the children whose feet were of ordinary size. But she could entertain them, anyway, for Sai Gee could play the flute.

It was really wonderful. She sat upon a stool, over which an embroidered robe had been thrown, and played to them. Her hair was done in a coil back of her right ear, and her little brown face was sweet and wistful as she brought forth from the flute the most wonderful sounds. Sai Gee's father was very wealthy, and so the little one had everything that money could buy. Poon Chew made up her mind right then that she would ask her father to buy her a flute. Then Sai Gee brought forth some tiny cakes, made of powdered nuts, and some tea, and preserved watermelon; and for each of the little sisters a big slice of New Year's cake.

"My! but we have good time. I likee make New York call, like mo chun—we go now; good-by," said Poon Chow.

"Let's look in window," the big sister said; and of course the little one, having perfect confidence in Poon Chow, gladly followed, the soft little hand clasped in that of the sister. Oh, the wonderful things they saw! The streets looked lige a garden, with the rows of almond blossoms and China lilies, and on every balcony swung in rows the immense dragon lanterns.

They stopped awhile—they thought it only a few mintues—to watch some boys playing a New Year's game, and then passed on by the stores, where the smell of the good things made them very hungry.

"O, how nice the loast pohk (roast pork) smell! I velly hungly—we go home pletty soon," said the older sister.

"Yes, we go home pletty soon," echoed Poon Yet.

The little feet were growing tired, for they had never before been on the streets alone, and they wanted to get all the pleasure they could out of it. How they did wish they had brought some money, as they looked longingly at the great heaps of candied cocoanut and ginger on the street-stands. Their eyes must have said so, for just as they were gazing at the dainties with longing eyes, a richly-dressed Chinaman came by, and the first thing they knew he was saying: "You likee candy, ne jai?" (little girl).

It startled them at first, but when they looked up and saw what a kind face the man had, they did not feel afraid, but replied:

"Yes—we velly hungly—we no bling money; we catch 'em plenty money at home."

The man laughed good-naturedly, and having bought them a large package of candy, started on. After they had eaten some of it they noticed the growing darkness. Could it be possible that night was coming on? They had not thought of that; it had seemed so bright when they started, and it did not seem as if they could have been gone long.

Meanwhile, what of the little brown mother at home?

When she finished her cake she called her children. She had made a little cake just for them, and she wanted them to come and eat it.

"Poon Chew! Poon Yet!" she called; but no sound came back through the silence.

"Little one—ne jai, come to mo chun!" No reply.

POOR CHEW AND POOR YET.

With wildly beating heart she rushed through the tiny rooms and out to the narrow pavement. She hailed a passing policeman, and in faltering Chinese told him that her little ones were lost, described the pretty clothes they wore, and all the while her heart was wrung with a nameless fear. What would life be without the soft little arms about her neck?—the patter of the little sandaled feet?—the sound of the shrill little voices at play?

This policeman told others, and they were all searching for the two children, who were out making New Year's calls.

And it grew darker. Poon Chew trembled, as she realized that they were lost. She did not know which way to turn. Some men were lighting the big dragon lanterns on the balcony opposite, so it was really night.

"Oh, little sister, we are lost! I forget; I no 'member the way home. What will we do?" she moaned.

She had no idea what direction her home was in, and her eyes were filled with tears; but now through the tears she saw some one approaching. It was—oh, joy! the old nurse Suey, leading the richly dressed little Sai Chong, brother of Sai Gee.

She was greatly surprised when she saw the children so far from home, and they clung to her neck, weeping and laughing by turns.

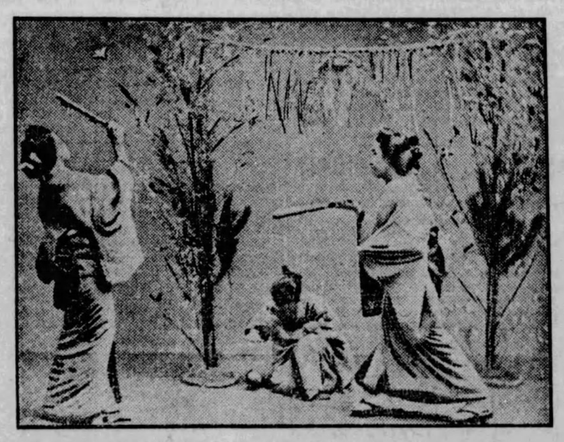
Take us home—take us home," they cried.

They had walked so far and were so tired that she got a Chinaman who was standing by to take them all home in his wagon. When they arrived, they found the little mo chun in the greatest distress. She was very much astonished as she saw them all tumble out of the covered wagon, and they all cried and laughed, and never did the little mother receive so many kisses; and four little brown arms clasped her neck all at once, and the little sisters were so very sorry to have been so naughty that they said:

"Mo chun, beautiful cherry blossom—we neveh, neveh, make New Year calls again without you."

From Little Almond Blossoms, by Jessie Juliet Knox. Copyright, Little, Brown & Co.

The Japanese New Year's Flower



JAPANESE NEW YEAR'S DECORATIONS.
Two Girls Playing at Battledore and Shuttlecock, and the little one with ball.

The Japanese are a nature-loving people and frequently give practical expression to their feelings by taking a holiday simply for "flower-viewing." At the proper season, the entire nation, so to speak, takes a day off and turns out on a big picnic to see the plum blossoms, or the cherry blossoms, or the maules, or the chrysanthemums. As one or more flowers are blooming every month, there is almost a continuous round of such picnics during the year. A book describing these flower festivals has been written by Ernest W. Clement with the title, The Japanese Floral Calendar. It describes the flowers of each month, beginning with the first month of the year with the pine, the bamboo, and the plum. The pine has first choice and the decorations in front of every house at the New Year's season are known as "Kado-matsu" (gate pines,) or Matsukazari (pine decorations); and the first seven days of the year are collectively called Matsu-no-uchi, which may be freely translated "pine week."

The pine, like the bamboo, has no "blossom" in the Occidental meaning of that word, but is regarded as a "flower" by the Japanese; and these two are venerated because they keep green in winter and their color never fades. Therefore, they are emblems of constancy, endurance, health and longevity.

The origin of gate pines is very ancient, perhaps so far back as eight hundred and fifty years ago. The way in which they are arranged is to place two pines in front of the gate in pairs: the rougher and more prickly one, called the male, on the left, which is the side of honor in Japan: the softer and more graceful one, called the female, on the right. The custom of adding bamboos is of more recent origin.

The other decorations include a rope, specially named shimenawa, with the strips of white paper, a cray-fish, ferns, a large orange, called daidai, a leaf or two of an evergreen tree, dried persimmons, dried chestnuts, etc. Each one of these articles has its own peculiar significance, and is symbolical of good fortune for the year.

The never-fading color of the pine is compared to the chastity of woman, and O Matsu is a very common name for a girl. The needle-shaped leaves of the pine "are credited with the power of driving demons away."

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READY FOR THE WINTER

Troops Driven to Cover by Severity of Weather.

Mukden, Dec. 22.—The Russian soldiers along the advance lines have about prepared themselves for the winter.

The thermometer is five below zero. There has not been much snow yet, but it is perishing cold and fuel is almost at prohibitive prices.

We have just come in from a ride around the front. It was nearly a mile to the extreme front through fields of cut kaolin, the giant millet of Manchuria, which is being rapidly burned for fuel. Whole villages of Chinese huts have been gutted of every particle of woodwork for the same purpose. Nearly the whole of the army is living under ground, where body heat has to serve instead of fires.

It was a desolate ride to the trenches. We caught up with the officer of the day visiting his outposts and accompanied him along miles of trenches, where the ground is already frozen a foot deep and the thousands of soldiers are working rapidly extending the lines of defense and burrowing into the ground for bomb-proofs and dugouts before the frost gets a real grip on things and the ground freezes like granite, seven feet down.

Towards noon we came to an extensive entrenchment and encampment, where numerous little fires were burning and big kettles swung from cross sticks showed that the soldiers were preparing tea. Here the general commanding and a group of staff officers welcomed us, and in addition to the tea one of them actually produced a lemon to go with it. How a lemon ever got into that part of Manchuria was a mystery unsolved.

Ahead of us, on the reverse face of the cliff, were scores of what looked like gigantic swallows' nests. They were simply holes in the cliff, each hole thatched around with a woven tunnel of kaolin stalks. Here the men live, a dozen to the dugout, packed like sardines at night for warmth, but comfortable. Some of the officers' dugouts are fairly luxurious.

The men have plenty of tea and they are fairly well fed, but fresh meat is a luxury that is not to be neglected at any juncture and suddenly while we were talking by the fire some fresh meat made its appearance. There was a row towards the forward line of trenches that might have presaged a Japanese attack and we rushed to a knoll that commanded a view. There from the seemingly deserted Chinese hut rushed a half grown pig, a shoat of the Manchurian razorback variety. After it went a Cossack in hot pursuit. Other Cossacks joined the chase, but the pig, threading the trenches, gained the open ground and headed for the Japanese lines less than 400 yards away.

Reckless of death or anything else six Cossacks dashed in pursuit, with their long brown coats tucked about their waists. But the pig headed across the imaginary dividing line and charged the Japanese position. The opposite hill alone had been to all appearances vacant and silent as the grave, but a hidden trench suddenly gave up a party of Japanese and away they went after the pig. The Cossacks stopped and the Japanese headed the pig diagonally back towards the Russian lines. They did not catch it, but a fresh relay of Russians took up the chase and the pig veered over again to the Japanese. Not a shot was fired all this time, and the Japanese and Cossacks stood within a hundred paces of each other in the open, laughing at each others nonsuccess and hurling mutual maledictions after the pig. The last we saw of it the pig was keeping strictly to the neutral strip between the forces and heading westward in the direction of Liao river.

The general laughed, although he also sighed at the thought of the vanished pig and invited us over to have more tea at his "palace."

"I do not patronize anything but palaces," he explained as we mounted to follow him, "and there being none hereabouts I had one built." It was down a steep trail where the horses fairly sat down and slid on the frozen ground. Overhanging the edge of a narrow valley was the palace, a more than usually commodious dugout, and inside a stove was built into the wall with home-made bricks. It had a fire in it the day before and was shut up tight and still warm. Before it on the ground sat Prince Radzivill, just come in from a scout and warming his red hands against the bricks. There was a table and a tiny window letting in a little light from a tunnel on one side. And hot tea, without lemon this time, added to the joys of living.

We turned back later along the route we had come. The opposite hillside was vacant and silent as usual. But from a far distant crest came a wink of light almost like a heliograph and a few seconds later a big Byzantine shell burst with a thunderous noise and a cloud of smoke and dirt close to the trench where we had seen the pig race in the morning.

We climbed to a heliograph station on the cliff above and found the officer in charge flashing a message to Poutiloff hill. Through the binoculars we could see Poutiloff's tiny mirror winking in reply. "New battery," said the officer, jerking his head towards where the shot had come from, while a signal sergeant, through a transit, was scaning the hill crest.

"Poutiloff and I have both got his angle approximately," he explained, "and we know the base line from here to Poutiloff hill, so the next time he shoots we can triangulate on him and get the exact range. We will make things interesting for him a little later," he added significantly.

We rode slowly back to our dugout, leaving the signal officer trying to beat some circulation into his mittened hands. There may be a fight tonight or there may not, but that is all there is to tell just now of a day along the front.

Destroyers Escape.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—The admiralty expresses ignorance of a report printed by the London Daily Telegraph today in a dispatch from Che Foo that eight Russian torpedo boat destroyers had escaped from Port Arthur during a severe snow storm. If knowledge of their contemplated escape existed here naturally it would be carefully guarded for strategic reasons until certain that they were clear. There is no attempt, however, to disguise the fact that confirmation of the report would be welcome intelligence.

It is quite possible that arrangements were made for the destroyers with the aid of a collier to flee southward and join the second Pacific squadron, to which they would constitute a powerful reinforcement.

Another Russian Repulse.

Tokio, Dec. 24.—A dispatch from the headquarters of the Japanese army in Manchuria says: "On December 22 the enemy's artillery bombarded Sanchutzu, Nainzlumtun and their vicinities and at about midnight his infantry attacked our positions south of Pinniulumao and on the northeastern heights of Hsiapontaitzu, but were repulsed. At 1 in the afternoon of December 23 the enemy's heavy guns in neighborhood of Takushiatzu occasionally bombarded our positions."

Fleet at Singapore.

Singapore, Straits Settlements, Dec. 22—Two Japanese cruisers called here this morning and left at once. They reported that two Japanese battleships, two first-class cruisers, two second-class cruisers, and twelve torpedo boat destroyers were near by steaming west.

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RUSSIAN STRENGTH GONE

Admiral Togo Says Only One Weak Gunboat and Several Torpedo Boat Destroyers Remain.

Tokio, Dec. 24.—Admiral Togo announces the withdrawal of the majority of the fleet from Port Arthur.

Telegraphing under date of December 22, he says:

"After 203 metre hill was occupied as the result of a gallant and desperate attack by the besieging army the bombardment of the enemy's squadron by siege and other heavy guns became effective. In consequence the battleships Poltava and Retvizan were sunk and subsequently the battleships Potsieda and Peresviet, the protected cruiser Pallada and the armored cruiser Bayan were sunk.

The battleship Sevastopol escaped the land bombardment, left the harbor December 9 and anchored near Chentao mountain. She was attacked there continuously by our torpedo boats and heavily damaged.

The main strength of the enemy is completely crushed. Only a weak gunboat, the Otvashni, and several torpedo boat destroyers remain afloat.

Under the circumstances our combined fleet has been removed as unnecessary from the blockade of Port Arthur, which had been maintained since May first.

I have arranged for a closer watch for ships attempting to run the blockade.

"During the blockade we suffered from the enemy's mines both laid and floating on the high seas, and from dense fogs. The cruisers Miyago, Saiyen and Yoshitio, Satsuse, battleship, Kaimon, gun boat, and Peijen, coast defense vessel, were sunk, and many gallant and loyal officers and men were killed, but we succeded in maintaining the blockade. When the enemy emerged from the harbor our fleet successfully engaged him, and finally, with the valuable support of the besieging army, succeeded in crushing nearly all the enemy's squadron. Our second squadron so heavily damaged the Vladivostok squadron that it has since been unable to leave port.

"All this success is gratefully attributed to the brilliant virtue of our emperor.

"During the blockade all the ships under my command splendidly accomplished the work and duty assigned to them. Especially to be noted are some of these who were engaged in the difficult and risky task of blockading or who tirelessly accomplished the work of laying mines in the presence of the enemy, others who braving all dangers were engaged in the work of clearing mines away, and others still who were posted to watch the enemy and guard against the enemy's ships. Their combined work strongly contributed to the accomplishment of the blockade. I deem it my duty to especially mention my recognition of the valuable services rendered the officers and men."

Tokio, Dec. 24.—An imperial rescript dispatched to Vice Admiral Togo says:

"We hear with great satisfaction that our torpedo flotillas engaged in the work required of them at Port Arthur have gallantly aid successfully accomplished the duties required of them, and in so doing had to brave the dangers of storms and shells by day and night.

"Despite all the difficulties confronting them they have succeeded in performing their duties without the least confusion, rendering one another mutual assistance.

"We especially note their brave and loyal performance of the duties required of them and express our approbation of their gallant behavior."

Russian Ammunition.

London, Dec. 24.—The Times correspondent at Pekin reports that the Chinese have seized at the Fengtai station, near Pekin, three million rounds of Russian rifle ammunition consigned to a Russian firm at Tien Tsin and evidently designed for Port Arthur. The ammunition was concealed in bales of wool brought from Kalgan on camels.

BIRILEFF RUSHES WORK

Will Have Third Squadron Ready Early in Year.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—Admiral Birileff is quotd in an interview as saying that all the shipyards in the Baltic are working day and night, and that the third squadron will go out in two sections.

The admiral pledges himself to have the first section, which will include the Semiavin, Braxin, Uskatyoff, Nicholas II and Komiloff, ready by February, and the second, consisting of the Slava, Alexander II and Famait Azova, a little later.

RESERVES MOBILIZED.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 21.—Mobilization of the reserves has been announced in seven military districts.

This is the third and most extensive mobilization of the war, and will add about 200,000 men to the army in the far east. It is thought the whole force can be placed in the field by spring, when the problem of food and fuel will be easier met and the transportation of the troops will create less strain upon the trans-Siberian railway.

It will bring General Kuropatkin's effective force, roughly estimated, to 680,000.

The mobilization affects a portion of about half the military districts of Russia. While some men called to the colors will be used to complete the strength of the regiments going to the front, by far the greater portion will be formed into reserve units to replace troops which have already gone to the far east. This year the conscripts taken number about half a million men, being about double the number usually called to the colors. The number of young men annually liable to military service is over 800,000.

The new mobilization will entail additional relief measures for the families of reserve men which probably will be met by increasing the credits of the zemivos for this purpose.

Russians Admit It.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 21.—While declining to give details the admiralty admits that Russian advices from Port Arthur sent by General Stoessel substantially confirmed the Japanese advices of the partial wrecking of the Russian ships in the harbor and the censor has been instructed to permit the publication of the dispatches. It is asserted that several of the larger ships and a respectable number of torpedo boat destroyers are still seaworthy, but they are not being considered as a factor in the coming fight between Admiral Togo's ships and the Russian second Pacific squadron. The whole series of misfortunes which has attended the Port Arthur squadron is a bitter chapter in Russian naval annals, but since the arrival of the latest advices there has been less disposition to criticise Rear Admiral Wiren' failure to make a sortie, General Stoessel having decided that further defense of the fortress would be impossible if the guns of the warships and the sailors landed were re-embarked.

Had the ships been able to go out under the conditions existing they would have been at the mercy of the Japanese and have been sacrificed without hope of inflicting commensurate damage. If the fortress is relieved it is believed that most of the ships will be raised and saved.

The reports that a Japanese squadron of forty vessels had already sailed to meet the second Pacific squadron is regarded at the admiralty here as being incorrect and circulated for a purpose.

MORE JAP FORCES.

Tokio Is Filled With Men for the Front.

Tokio, Dec. 26.—The following report has been received from the besiegers at Port Arthur:

"A body of our right wing surprised the enemy at Housanyentao and Siaofantun (the latter about six and a half miles northwest of Port Arthur) at 10 o'clock Saturday night and occupied the villages, and, subsequently dislodging the enemy, occupied the whole of Talinchintun (about five miles northwest of Port Arthur, at 2:55 o'clock this morning.

"Our repeated attacks during the past few days were uniformly successful, and now the whole of the enemy's advanced positions fronting our right wing is in our hands."

Tokio, Dec. 26.—Tokio is a great military camp, and the scenes of last spring, when the first armies were mobilized and dispatched, are being duplicated. Thousands of recruits and reservists are assembled, drilling and equipping preparatory to taking the field.

The permanent and temporary barracks are filled, and it is necessary to billet the soldiers brought to the city. Aoyama field is the center of activity, where infantry, cavalry and artillery are constantly drilling.

The batteries fire blank charges for the purpose of breaking in the new horses. The general military preparations are enormous.

It is planned to give Field Marshal Oyama a rough total of half a million men, with a heavily increased art llery arm, beside providing a defense for Formosa and the southern islands in anticipation of the Russian second Pacific squadron's attempt to seize a base.

The port of Kelung, in Formosa, has been declared in a state of siege, and other positions in Formosa and the Pescadores are progressing. Winter is not interfering with the Japanese transport service.

The railway between Dalny and Yentai is working well, and the running time between Tokio and Liaoyang is six days.

No Damage Suffered.

General Kuroki's Headquarters in the Field, Dec. 25, via Fuson.—The usual Russian artillery fire against the Japanese left and center has been heard the past three days, and from midnight last night until dawn this morning. According to reports received, the Japanese suffered no damage from the fire. There is no activity in front of the Japanese right army. The weather is very mild.

Wine for Russians.

Mukden, Dec. 27.—Volunteers on the night of December 21 occupied Japanese trenches opposite their positions. Three trenches were evacuated by the Japanese with scarcely a fight. The victors were surprised to find a box lying in plain view which they opened carefully, fearing that it might contain explosives, but they found in it wine, biscuits and sweets and a letter in Russian politely requesting its acceptance "from disturbing neighbors."

JAPS MOVING WEST.

Vessels Leave Singapore for Unknown Destination.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—The announcement that four Japanese cruisers and twelve torpedo boats are proceeding west from Singapore, is received here with much interest.

It is not believed, however, that such a small squadron can have been sent out by Japan with any idea of engaging in offensive operations, but it is regarded as more probable that it is the purpose of this squadron to keep a surveillance over the two detachments of the Russian fleet, which are expected to soon unite in the neighborhood of Madagascar.

It is generally believed that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky intends to establish a naval coaling base on some small islafid between Madagascar and the Philippines, and that the Japanese cruising squadron hopes to mark down the rendezvous for Vice Admiral Togo's information.

The hope is expressed that Admiral Rojestvensky will be able to catch up with the Japanese scout, which it is believed he could easily destroy, thereby weakening the Japanese in the final naval engagement.

Firing at Poutiloff.

Mukden, Dec. 23.—There was more artillery firing from Poutiloff hill on December 21, which resulted in dispersing a party of Japanese who were trying to entrench in front of that position.

Chinese report that Field Marshal Ovama and his staff have established headquarters at Llao Yang and that the Japanese are constructing new forts around the city. The Japanese are reported to be suffering severely from cold and sickness in the vicinity of Palaszandzi and Shilikhe, where it is said they lost 2,000 men in a single week.

The Orenburg Cossacks captured six Japanese scouts on December 21, four of whom were badly frozen, two having to have their feet amputated. The same Cossacks recently captured seventeen Japanese, who were unable to fire a single shot when they found themselves surrounded.

The Port of Yinkow is closed by ice.

All Japanese reinforcements landing at Dalny are going in the direction of Port Arthur.

RUSSIAN PLAN

Captain Clado Says It Is to Wear Togo Down.

Paris, Dec. 26.—"Inasmuch as the Baltic fleet is almost within Japanese waters," said Capt. Clado, of the Russian navy, to The New York World correspondent yesterday, "and Russia is willing to pay indemnity to those who suffered through the firing on British fishermen in the North Sea, it is difficult to see the importance of whatever decision may be arrived at by the international commission which organized here Saturday to inquire into the case. Whichever nation secures a moral triumph no political significance will attach to it."

Capt. Clado is the composite witness, so to speak, for the Baltic fleet, of which he is on officer. He was detached by Admiral Rojestvensky at Vigo, Spain, to carry the Admiral's detailed report of his North Sea adventure to the Czar and to represent the commander-in-chief and the other officers of the fleet in testifying before the Paris commission of inquiry.

While in St. Petersburg Capt. Clado stirred up a hornet's nest and went to prison for a fortnight for breach of discipline in printing articles in the newspapers savagely attacking the Russian high admiral (Grand Duke Alexis, an uncle of the czar), and all the other authorities of the Russian navy department because they would not order the Black Sea fleet to reinforce Rojestvensky. His term of imprisonment expired just in time to allow him to arrive here for the opening of the international commission's sessions.

"I think the startling duplicity of the Japanese will be revealed at the inquiry," the captain continued, "and that Russia's position in the matter will be strengthened.

"The indifference in both England and Russia about the affair indicates that at the bottom they are always old friends and that when the war is over immediate efforts will be made to have a still better understanding.

"We regard the sending of a third fleet to the Far East as indispensable because by so doing we can rapidly wear down and master the Japanese navy.

"Even if Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet should be destroyed, it would leave Japan's ships in such a worn condition that they would fall an easy prey to the third Russian fleet, thus enabling us to rule the eastern seas, retake Port Arthur if it falls, cut off Japan's base in Corea and bring about an ultimate Russian victory —which I believe impossible otherwise.

"The czar's failure to proclaim a constitutional government for Russia, as it was hoped he would do on his recent fete day, caused the greatest disappointment throughout Russia.

"Probably the expected decree will come soon, though. The czar may feel that a waiting policy will win over some of the bitterest enemies of the reform. A constitution is bound to come, because Emperor Nicholas wants the people to have it."

HOSPITAL SHIPS FOR DESTROYERS

Russians Used Former as a Protection.

London, Dec. 27.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at Tokio cables as follows:

"On December 19, the Japanese signaled the Russian hospital ships protecting the destroyers in the roadstead of Port Arthur to change their berth and the Russians requested a respite of six hous, which meant giving the destroyers the benefit of darkness. The sequel is not known.

"It is reported that recently positions have been captured behind Liaotie which have cut off the Russian supply bases from the main force.

"Foreign correspondents from Port Arthur declare that the fortress is the strongest that ever was attacked and compare it to six Sevastopols, all situated on hills arranged in mutually supporting groups, connected by tramways and telephones and backed by a mass of wall masking the movements of the troops from one another. They consider that no other army in the world could have done what the Japanese have accomplished, but deprecate as over-sanguine the idea of its immediate capture."

MAKE ANOTHER ADVANCE

But Japanese Incur Heavy Loss of Life in Doing So.

London, Dec. 27.—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Che Foo in a dispatch dated December 26, says:

"A messenger from Port Arthur describes a Japanese attack the evening of December 22, with a light column of 5,000 and many machine guns on the northern defenses. They dashed along the railway, carried trench after trench, and succeeded in reaching the water course beneath Payusian mountain, whence the Russian artillery worked terrible execution. A fierce bayonet fight occurred at midnight. A strong Russian force advancing eastward of Paynisel mountain, threatened the retreat of the Japanese, who after a desperate struggle retired to the north, leaving several machine guns, 300 rifles and 80 prisoners. It is estimated that they lost 600 killed.

"The Japanese halted near the cemetery, and finding that both their flanks had carried all the works forming the outlying range of the main forts, they entrenched on small hills near Ktse mountain, under a severe enfilading fire, which caused them heavy losses.

HOLLAND DENIES REPORT

Will Not Allow Russia to Use Any of Her Territory.

The Hague, Dec. 27.—The report that Holland will place Sabang, in the Straits settlement, twenty miles north of Malacca, at the disposition of the Russian second Pacific squadron, as reported from Tokio in a dispatch to the London Times, is devoid of foundation.

It is learned in official quarters that Holland will observe the same strict neutrality in her colonies as at home and that neither Sabang nor any other points in the Dutch East Indies will be placed either directly or indirectly at the disposal of the belligerents.

WANT AMMUNITION BACK

Russians Make Demand But Chinese Are Standing Firm.

Pekin, Dec. 27.—The Russian officials here demanded of the Chinese foreign office yesterday the restitution of the 3,000,000 pounds of ammunition apparently destined for Port Arthur and seized by the Chinese authorities at Fengtai, near here, four days ago. The Russians assert that the ammunition was intended only for the legation guard.

It is learned at the foreign office that the Chinese intend taking a strong stand in view of the frequent attempts to smuggle arms and ammunition. The bales of wool containing the cartridges seized at Fengtai were consigned to a European resident of Pekin who is now at Tien Tsin taking part in the investigation into the affair.

One Hundred Killed.

Mukden, Dec. 27.—Volunteers who crossed the Shakhe river on Friday surprised a force of the enemy, killing about one hundred and taking fifteen prisoners. The Russian losses were trifling.

At England's Request.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The Echo de Paris claims to have information that it was on the request of the British government that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky sent back Lieutenant Valrond, of the transport Kamchatka, to testify before the international commission on the North Sea affair concerning the wireless messages which aroused the suspicions of the commander of the Russian Baltic squadron and led to opening fire upon the gamecock fleet.

Worked With Forged Deed.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Judge Tuley has decided that Montville Waldo Howard has been seeking for five years to establish title by means of a forged deed to $125,000 worth of property left by John McCaffery, an eccentric capitalist now deceased. Howard is the husband of a woman formerly in the employ of McCaffery. Judge Tuley finds that the deed in dispute, purporting to convey to Howard several blocks of property in the vicinity of Sixty-ninth street and the Grand Trunk railway tracks, was either a blank deed bearing McCaffery's name and found among his effects by Howard or an undelivered deed found by Howard after McCaffery's death.

The only consideration said to have been given for the deed was "$1, love and affection."

Wall Blows Down.

Peru, Ind., Dec. 23.—A high wind early today blew down a two-story brick building in process of construction. The wall caved in the adjoining frame house of Mrs. Clare Taylor. With her were Mrs. Ann Arrington, Miss Ann Murphy, and Adrian Taylor, a boy, all of whom were injured.

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CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
25 CTS.

THE SAMAR UPRISING.

Gov. Wright Makes Roport Which Explains Latest Moves Made by Hill Men Against Scouts.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The war department was officially advised today by General Corbin, commanding the department of the Philippines of the uprising in Samar in which one lieutenant and a number of enlisted men of the Philippine scouts were killed. The cablegram is as follows:

"The Pulajones are on the warpath in Samar in considerable numbers as may be judged from the following:

"On November 3, about four hundred Pulajones and several hundred volunteers joined in an attack on a detachment of twenty Philippine scouts at Oras, Samar. Killed: One hospital corpsman, wounded; twelve Philippine scouts, missing, five said to have been boloed while in the river. All the bodies were badly mutilated. Again on December 16, Second Lieutenant Stephen K. Hayt and thirty-seven enlisted men of the Thirty-eighth company, Philippine scouts, was killed by Pulajones at Dolorez Samar. First Lieutenant George F. Abbott requests help from the military authorities. The town is threatened by a thousand Pulajones. The situation is critical in both instances. I offered the Philippine government all the assitance desired. As yet none has been accepted.

Secretary Taft has made public a mail report just received from Governor Wright in regard to the condition of affairs in Samar and other islands of the Philippine group. It is in part as follows:

"The great bulk of the civilized Filipinos live on or not remote from the coast line, but there are scattered communities living in the mountains who are little removed from savagery. It frequently happens that some enterprising man among them will obtain a considerable following and will perpetrate all sorts of outrages upon peaceful and inoffensive inhabitants. This cannot be changed at once. It, therefore, may be infered that for several years to come there will be eruptions from this source, and that they will make raids upon the civilized Finipinos living in the lowlands as heretofore. The commission so far as its finances permit is engaged in building roads to open these remote sections of the interior and to make them accessible.

"A striking instance of the tendencies of these mountaineers is furnished by recent occurrences in the island of Samar, which is the third in point of size in the archipelago. Two months ago several hundred of these hill men met under the leadership of one of their number, who styles himself Papa (pope) Bulan, and who, as is usually the case, claims to be divinely inspired, suddenly descended upon the native towns along the coast line, plundered and burned the outlying barrios, and began killing men, women and children in discriminately. The constabulary promptly took the field against them, and they were soon broken up into small bands, and are being pursued and killed or captured. Captured members of the band state that the immediate cause of the outbreak was that certain of their countrymen who were prominent in the insurrection, who were employed by mercantile houses as agents for the purchase of hemp, had oppressed them by paying them only a nominal price for their hemp, thereafter turning it into their principals at a much larger price. The Spaniards impressed themselves less perhaps, upon the people of Samar than upon the inhabitants of the other islands, and except Mindanao, the home of the Moros, there is therefore more combustible material there than in the other islands. Doubtless many of the inhabitants of these mountain regions never have seen a white man. The civilized Filipinos are in great terror of them, and eagerly co-operate, as far as their fears will permit, with the constabulary and scouts in their elimination."

SPIED THROUGH JAPAN

Russian Correspondent Completes Trip Through Enemy's Country.

Moscow, Dec. 24.—V. F. Crazuesky, correspondent of the Russky Slava, has just arrived at San Francisco after a long and hazardous trip through Japan, where he traveled as an American journalist under the name of Percy Palmer. He undertook the journey to ascertain the real situation of affairs in the enemy's country, taking the risk of discovery and execution as a spy. He had a complete American outfit, and arranged to have letters forwarded from various cities in the United States. He has telegraphed to the Russky Slava from San Francisco that he visited Yokohama, Tokio, Sasebo, Isaka, Kioto, Shimonoseki, Nagasaki and Matsuma; photographed the Russian prison camp; examined the hospitals, fortress and troops, and met and entertained high Japanese.

Crazuesky is bringing home a mass of interesting material, which will make many interesting disclosures. He says his most dangerous moment was when he faced 3,000 Russian prisoners. If he had been recognized by one of them he would have received short shrift.

FORTY MEMBERS RESIGN

Chernigov Officials Decline to Serve After Czar's Rebuff.

Chernigov, Russia, Dec. 24.—Forty members of the local Zemstvo, including the president who signed the recent telegram to Emperor Nicholas have resigned.

The Chernigov Zemstvo on December 20 telegraphed resolutions begging Emperor Nicholas in the most loyal manner to convoke legally elected members of the Zemstvos to present a program of reforms for his consideration. The emperor on December 22 wrote the following endorsement on the Chernigov Zemstvo despatch:

"I consider the action of the president to be presumptious and tactless. Questions of state administration are of no concern to the Zemstvos whose functions and rights are clearly defined by the law."

GREEK CABINET RESIGNS

Stuck by Government so Long as Macedonian Trouble Was Acute.

Athens, Dec. 24.—The Greek cabinet resigned today in consequence of the defeat of the government in the chamber yesterday on a vote of no confidence moved by former Premier Delyannis. The latter sharply criticised the government's general policy and M. Zaimis did the same.

M. Zaimis said his party had supported the ministry for the past year because of the Macedonia question. As, however, that question had now entered on a chronic phase the Zaimists could no longer place confidence in the ministry and the country should be asked to judge of the ministerial program.

King George is considering whether to form a stopgap cabinet or dissolve the chamber and entrust M. Delyannis with the task of forming a new cabinet.

BEAR KILLING RECORD

John Beckman Shots Four of The in Five Minutes.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 26.—John Backman, a farmer living at Thornhurst, on the Pocono mountains, killed four bears in five minutes with five shots from his repeating shotgun and holds the record of the season.

He was taking a party of hunters through the woods when they came upon bear tracks, those of a mother and cub. Backman followed them alone and went so quietly that upon going round a large rock he came upon them. They had been joined by two half grown bears. The animals saw Backman as soon as he saw them. He knocked over the mother bear with a load of buckshot in the body and then killed one of the half grown ones which was running away. Then the second half grown one was slain and finally the cub. The mother bear was disabled, but not dead, and he killed her with the fifth shot.

HAY MAKES SUGGESTION

Can Go No Further In Peace Conference.

Washington, Dec. 23.—That the further interchange of views preparatory to the formulating of a program for another peace conference at The Hague be effected through the international bureau under the control of the permanent administrative council of The Hague, is the suggestion offered by Secretary Hay in a second circular note to the powers, made public at the state department today. The note was dispatched a week ago, but its publication was withheld until it had reached the various American embassies and legations abroad. The secretary summarizes the replies of all the powers to his note of October 21, and expresses the gratification of the President at the cordial reception of his invitation.

Having taken this initial step, however, the secretary says he feels he has gone as far as he appropriately can and that with the general acceptance of his invitation in principle, "the future conduct of the affair may fitly follow its normal channels."

Regarding the conditional acceptance of Russia Secretary Hay says that while the postponement which this reply necessitates is to be regretted, this government recognizes the weight of the notice which induced it.

Attention is called to the fact that Russia declined to participate until the Eastern war was settled, and the communication closes as follows:

"It seems to the President that the high task he undertook in seeking to bring about an agreement of the powers to meet in a peace conference is virtually accomplished so far as it is appropriate for him to act, and that with the general acceptance of his invitation in principle the future conduct of the affair may fitly follow its normal channels.

"To this end it is suggested that the further and necessary interchange of views between the signatories of the acts of 1899 be effected through the international bureau under the control of the permanent administrative council of The Hague. It is believed that in this way by utilizing the central representative agency established and maintained by the powers themselves, an orderly treatment of the preliminary consultations may be insured and the way left clear for the eventual action of the government of the Netherlands in calling a renewed conference to assemble at The Hague should that course be adopted."

WILL HELP THE SULTAN

Ald-el-aziz Asks American Consul to Return.

New York, Dec. 26.—Coincident with the news from Morocco that the sultan has dismissed all foreign missions, employes and delegates attached to his court, comes a cablegram from the same sultan to J. R. S. Langerman, American consul at Tangier, asking him to return.

Mr. Langerman is at present in Philadelphia. He will make all haste to get back to Morocco.

The meaning of this is that Ab-del-Aziz has chosen Mr. Langerman for his chief adviser and has got rid of all the other foreigners attached to his court. The sole exception is Capt. Fournier, a French officer who is engaged in teaching the troops of the sultan the science of modern warfare.

Mr. Langerman is noted for his nerve and his diplomatic skill. He is a veteran in the consular service, and has had dealings in behalf of the United States with many semi-civilized rulers. Although firm in demanding the rights of his country, he has invariably succeeded in making himself popular with the foreign potentates with whom he has engaged in diplomatic dispute.

It was Mr. Langerman who secured the release of Ion Perdicaris from the bandit Raisuli. Previous to the time he took active charge of the negotiations little had been accomplished. His success in dealing with Raisuli has led the sultan to ask him to lead a movement to exterminate the bandit.

Since Mr. Langerman's departure from Morocco Raisuli has been extremely active. A few days ago he captured two large caravans within the walls of Tangier. His success has emboldened him to an alarming degree, and the sultan depends upon Mr. Langerman to curb his operations.

BOSTON HAS NEW SUBWAY

Christmas Present to City is Underground Thoroughfare.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 24.—The city of Boston, and especially that suburban section known as East Boston, is going to receive a Christmas gift that will be "a joy forever" to every man, woman and child in town.

The new transit tunnel under Boston harbor, connecting East Boston with the city proper, is completed after years of work and will be opened to traffic tomorrow. The new tunnel is the most important segment of the intricate and elaborate underground system of transportation which, when completed, will give to Boston a rapid transit system that will rival New York's recently opened "Battery to Harlem in 20 minutes" subway. The through line as planned will make it possible to run cars from Roxbury and the western suburbs underneath the great, throbbing arteries of travel of the city, and finally underneath the harbor itself to the East Boston terminal.

The tunnel now completed was begun on August 13, 1900, and has cost $2,123,607. It is 7,500 feet long, and the present terminus in Boston proper is Scollay Square, where it connects with the subway. Two thousand six hundred feet are under the water, and the rest under the streets, buildings and wharves of the city.

DEATH CHANT ON VESSEL

Mohammedan Crew Began It When Waves Ran High.

Boston, Dec. 26.—The steamer African Prince, Liverpool to this city and New York, came up the harbor yesterday with her propeller shaft twisted, steering gear damaged, boats lost and portions of her deck torn up by the fury of the storm encountered in mid-Atlantic.

The vessel was tossed for two days in the trough of the sea, unable to proceed until repairs had been made. Several members of the crew received minor injuries by being thrown about the decks.

A large number of the crew of 60 were Mohammedans, who, anticipating death, threw their prayer mats on the water-swept decks, and, drenched to the skin by the icy waves, sang the Moslem death chant.

ICE OF GLACIAL TIMES

Queer Find Made by Workmen in Montana Mountain.

Redding, Mont., Dec. 26.—While shoveling gravel from a pit at Black Butte mountain, five miles above Sisson, Southern Pacific workmen have discovered a vast underground sea of ice that is believed to have been formed in prehistoric times. Some are of the opinion that the Black Butte mountain that now rears its peak skyward came into existence after the formation of the ice.

The Black Butte mountain is a great source of supply of bantast for the railroad company. The ice was discovered after a vast quantity of gravel had been removed from the mountain. The ice is said to be of a good grade, and it is possible the company may utilize its find by developing it into an ice quarry. The ice appears to be almost one solid mass.

THE CZAR'S REFORMS.

Issues Imperial Ukase, Giving His Ideas.

WHAT UKASE PROVIDES.

1. Administration of law without favor and legal redress for those who suffer wrongfully.
2. Participation of people in local and municipal affairs.
3. Thorough independence of the courts.
4. Protection of shop employes workmen's insurance.
5. Circumscribing rights of the people only when state's safety is threatened.
6. Removal of limitations on exercise of religious beliefs.
7. Removal of many limitations governing foreigners.
8. Greater freedom for the press.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—Emperor Nicholas' long expected reform ukase was issued last night. The document deals, under eight heads, with practically all the subjects brought to the emperor's attention by the memorial of the congress of zemstvos' presidents held here last month, and while not specifically pledging the government to carry out the various reforms in their entirety as demanded by the memorial, promises that each shall be referred to the council of ministers with orders to report promptly on the fullest measures of relief which can be accorded on the various subjects.

One question not touched by the ukase is that of the constitutional assembly. Neither is the Jewish religion specifically mentioned, though freedom for all creeds or sects, whether Christian or otherwise, is among the subjects which will be dealt with.

The ukase makes decidedly liberal promises under a number of heads. It promises a full and equitable enforcement of existing laws; assures the zemstvos of the fullest possible measure of self government and the enforcement of the laws now existing in their behalf; promulgates a scheme of workmen's insurance; extends the liberty of the press and promises a full legal trial of all persons accused.

The imperial decree which finally initiated a scheme for the improvement of the administration of state, is addressed to the senate, and is as follows:

"In accordance with the revered will of our crowned predecessor, and thinking unceasingly of the welfare of the realm entrusted to us by God, we regard it as our duty and the government's duty in coniunction with undeviating maintenance of the immutability of the fundamental laws of empire to have untiring care of the country's needs, distinguishing all that is really in the interests of the Russian people from tendencies not seldom mistaken and influenced by transitory circumstances. When the need of this or that change is proved ripe, then we consider it necessary to meet it, even though the transformation to which this leads involves the introduction of essential innovations in legislation. We do not doubt that the realization of such an undertaking will meet with the sympathy of the well disposed section of our subjects, who see the true prosperity of the fatherland in the support of civil tranquility and the uninterrupted satisfaction of the daily needs of the people.

"Placing in the forefront of our care thought of the best ordering of the life of the most numerous estates, the peasant population, we may remark that this matter is already under examination.

"Simultaneously with a detailed investigation of the proposals of the ministry of the interior, which are being carried out locally, conferences are now being held by commissioners specially selected from amongst the most experienced of the highest administrative officials regarding the most important questions of peasant life, assisted in their investigation of the general needs of agricultural industry by the knowledge and experience of local committees. We command these to labor to bring the laws regarding peasants into unity with the general imperial legislation, thereby facilitating the task of attaining permanent security of this estate, which, by decree of the czar liberator, is recognized as consisting of free citizens possessing full rights.

"Surveying the wide domain of the people's uttermost needs, we regard as urgent in the interest of the legal strengthening of civic and public life:

"First—The adoption of effective measures for safeguarding the law in its full force as the most important pillar of the throne of the autocratic empire, in order that its inviolable fulfillment for all alike shall be regarded as the first duty by all the authorities and in all places subject to us, that its non-fulfillment shall inevitably bring with it legal responsibility for every arbitrary act, and that persons who have suffered wrong by such acts shall be enabled to secure legal redress:

"Second—That local and municipal institutions should be given as wide scope as possible in the administration of various matters affecting local welfare, and that they should have conferred upon them the necessary independence, within legal limitations, and that representatives of all sections of population interested in local matters should be called upon under equable conditions to take part in these institutions, with a view to the completest satisfaction possible of their needs. Besides the government's and zemstvo's district institutions hitherto existing, there should also be established in close connection with them public institutions for the administration of local affairs in localities of smaller extent.

"Third—That in order to secure equality of persons of all classes before the law, steps should be taken to bring about the necessary unification of judicial procedure through the empire, and to assure independence of the courts.

"Fourth—That for the further development of the measures introduced by us for the protection of workmen in factories, workshops and commercial establishments, attention is to be given to the question of the introduction of state insurance for workmen.

"Fifth—That there should be a revision of the exceptional tax decreed at the time of an unparalleled outbreak of criminal activity on the part of enemies of public order and the application of which was attended with a grave extension of discretionary power of the administrative authoritive and at the same time steps should be taken

GARFIELD MAKES REPORT

Wants Law to License Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—The first general report of the commissioner of corporations, James R. Garfield, was submitted to congress today by Secretary of Labor Metcalf. After reviewing the detail work of the bureau for the year, Mr. Garfield says:

"As shown by this report, the work of the bureau has thus been almost entirely the laying of a foundation of accurate knowledge of the legal and general business conditions with which it must deal and a clear definition of the problems for the consideration of which it was created.

"The result of the work may be thus summarized:

"1. Commercial and industrial conditions present the foremost problems of today. There exists a deep-rooted general feeling of dissatisfaction with existing conditions. Some causes of dissatisfaction are apparent, and the evils very real and great.

"2. The present legal conditions under which corporate business is carried on are extremely unsatisfactory. They admit of, and invite, extreme abuse. They are the result of forced growth under divergent pressures, and in their present anomalous state represent the needs or demands of special interests, and are not a permanent body of law adapted to provide properly for all the interests involved.

"Furthermore, the 'state system,' applied to interstate businesses, has developed additional and peculiar evils; a diversity so great as to amount in operation to anarchy; an inevitable tendency toward the lowest level of lax regulation, and the unequal and disastrous contest between state legislatures and commercial forces of national size and power.

"No satisfactory reform is to be expected under the 'state system' of incorporation.

4. The federal government has at its command sufficient power to remedy these conditions in its control of interstate commerce, supplemented by subsidiary and incidental powers.

5. So far the commerce clause of the constitution has had a negative development only, both under congress and by judicial interpretation. With the exception of the interstate commerce act—the force of which has been seriously weakened by judicial interpretation—and the navigation laws, there has been no really affirmative attempt to regulate interstate commerce. The commerce clause has been chiefly used to prevent the interference by states with interstate commerce.

6. The creation of this bureau affords a means for getting essential facts. In addition to the value to congress of such information, the publication of facts, the dissemination of knowledge, will bring into existence the influence of an enlightened public opinion which properly applied would go far to develop the sense of public trust involved in the control of private wealth and the sense of personal responsibility on the part of officers or managers of corporations.

7. The work of the bureau can proceed along the lines of inquiry and report, adding fact upon fact in proof of existing conditions, but no real remedy can be expected until congress takes action by affirmative use of the great powers granted under the commerce clause of the constitution.

9. I therefore beg to suggest that congress be requested to consider the advisability of enacting a law for the legislative regulation of interstate and foreign commerce under a license or franchise, which in general should provide as follows:

(a) The granting of a federal franchise or license to engage in interstate commerce.

(b) The imposition of all necessary requirements as to corporate organization and management as a condition precedent to the grant of such franchise or license.

(c) The requirement of such reports and returns as may be desired as a condition of the retention of such franchise or license.

(d) The prohibition of all corporations and corporate agencies from engaging in interstate and foreign commerce without such federal franchise or license.

(e) The full protection of the grantees of such franchise or license who obey the laws applicable thereto.

(f) The right to refuse or withdraw such franchise or license in case of violation of law, with appropriate right of judicial appeal to present abuse of power by the administrative officer.

This bureau, under the direction of the secretary of commerce and labor, affords the appropriate machinery for the administration of such a law.

It is fully appreciated that this recommendation is not new, but has been the subject of most serious and exhaustive consideration by public officials and commissions, as well as private persons technically well qualified to speak. The industrial commission, in its final report on this subject, recommended, among other things, the adoption of a plan in all similar to this. It is neither necessary nor wise to attempt, in this report, to elaborate the details of such an act; but the bureau has upon its files abundant and, in many particulars, exhaustive information which would be immediately available for the use of congress or any committee thereof which might have under consideration such a measure.

THE PRESIDENT ROUSED

By Clouds of Smoke From Lighting Plant.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Drastic action has been recommended by the president looking to the suppression of the smoke nuisance in the city of Washington. A letter was sent by his direction to the district commissioners on November 30 inquiring if it were not possible to proceed criminally against the officers of the electric light company. He denounced the violation of the smoke law by the company at the very doors of the Whitehouse as an outrage and urged that the managers of the company be arrested again and again, at short intervals, in an effort to abate the nuisance.

No response having been received that was satisfactory, the president authorized today the publication of the letter to the district commissioners. It follows:

"Whitehouse, Washington,
"November 30, 1904.

"To the District Commissioners:

"The president has again taken up with his cabinet the smoke nuisance so far as public buildings are concerned. He would like especially to call your attention, however, to the well-nigh intolerable manifestation of the nuisance by the electric light company. Is it not possible to proceed criminally against the managers of this company? If not, drastic legislation should be recommended. It is an outrage.

"At almost every hour of the day this great chimney can be seen emitting dense clouds of black smoke. It would seem to be wise to go to the very limit of the law and arrest the head of the company or those highest up in the company again and again at the shortest possible intervals, in order to put a stop to this nuisance, for the conduct on their part amounts to a flagrant defiance of the law and of respect for public opinon and is fraught with serious consequences to the city of Washington.

"WILLIAM LOEB, JR.,
"Secretary to the President."

POSTAL FRAUDS DIMINISH

Washington, Dec. 23.—R. F. Goodwin, assistant attorney general for the post-office department, in his annual report to the postmaster general, says that the number of fraudulent concerns has been greatly reduced in consequence of the vigorous enforcement of the postal laws. The result is shown by the marked decrease in the number of complaints received. There were 144 fraud orders issued during the year and twenty-three orders were issued against foreign lottery companies and their agents who were found to be operating through the mails. Much has been done in the direction of excluding from the mails publications containing obscene and suggestive illustrations, advertisements and other matter considered unfit for circulation. Many of the worst of this class of offenders have had their enterprises suppressed and the report says there will be no relaxation of the work. The department allowed, during the year, an aggregate of $150,279 to reimburse postmasters for losses of government funds resulting from unavoidable casualties, and for losses of funds in transit from postmasters to their designated depositories.

TROOPS ARE KEPT BUSY

General Wood Reports Conditions in the Philippines.

Washington, Dec. 21.—General Wood, commanding the department of Mindanao, Philippine division, in his annual report to the war department, says that the troops of the department have been in the field a great portion of the year quelling armed uprisings and preventing slave and kindred abuses. He says that in almost every instance actual fighting was initiated by the Moros. "Conditions among the Moros throughout the department are generally peaceful," says Gen. Wood, who adds:

"The establishment of civil government and the extension over them of certain laws and regulations has caused some excitement and at times serious resistance, especially the law prohibiting slavery. In some sections active hostility has been engendered by our presence, especially in the Lake Lanao region, where almost constant murderous attacks on workingmen and soldiers were the rule until the effects of the recent expeditions to the Taraca side of the lake, combined with expeditions to other sections of the Lanao were felt by the Moros."

The power of the Moros of that section, he says, has been completely broken. Continuing, the report says:

"In Jolo affairs are quiet. The prompt crushing of Hassan's uprising has made a deep impression on the people and the abrogation of the Bates agreement has done much to bring to an end the unfortunate conditions which existed under it."

Dato Ali's party, the report adds, is the only band of Moros now openly hostile and it is small and is being followed by troops and scouts. General Wood says it is believed there will not be any very serious resistance of authority by the Moros in the future, but there will be constant work of a police character requiring the use of troops and constabulary. The report shows that trials by general courts-martial have diminished for enlisted men and increased for officers.

The report recommends encouragement of the local shipping interests in the islands, the use of a repeating shotgun loaded with buckshot, and a 45 calibre revolver for outpost duty. He says while the United States has increased the expensiveness of the native Philippine soldiery as compared with the native soldiery under Spanish rule, it has not increased its usefulness for the purpose for which it is maintained.

Speaking of the scouts, General Wood says it is a question if we have not diminished their capacity for the work they are supposed to be maintained for by the amount of equipment which we have given them and the rations furnished them, remarking that prior to enlistment they lived principally on rice and fish. The report says the shoes furnished are unsuitable for natives and it adds:

"The scout's ability to do excellent marching barefoot should be improved and his feet kept in condition so to do. We have swathed and toggled our tropical native soldiers whose native clothes weighed only a few ounces and hung loosely on them, with all the clothing requirements of those for the temperate zone."

CANADIANS ARE ANGRY

Premier Laurier Will Have Nothing to Do With American Committee.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The proposed meeting of the British-American joint high commission to consider reciprocity between America and Canada and about eleven other matters in dispute between the two countries will probably not be held in the immediate future.

Senator Fairbanks, urged by the President and many public men in various sections of the country, has been ambitious to bring about a settlement of these questions by this commission before his retirement from the senate on March 4. He has written a number of letters to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, chairman of the British membership, but all the replies have been to the effect that Canada does not desire a meeting of the commission and has no propositions for submission.

The reason for Sir Wilfrid's curtness is found in a speech delivered in the house last session by Representative Payne, of New York, chairman of the ways and means committee. Mr. Payne, being asked by a Democratic member what had been accomplished by the joint high commission, said that little had actually been done and that the failure was due to the indifference of the Canadian commissioners, which had amounted to discourtesy toward the American members.

This utterance greatly angered Sir Wilfrid and his associates, and several communications were sent by the Canadian commissioners to politicians in America asking what Mr. Payne meant.

MILES FORCED TO WAIT

Cannot Serve in Massachusetts Until Douglas Is Seated.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Governor-elect Douglas, of Massachusetts, has been advised that the secretary of war cannot make the detail of General Miles to duty with the Massachusetts militia until the request comes from Mr. Douglas in his capacity as governor.

This was in reply to a letter from the newly elected governor announcing it to be his desire that the general be detailed.

CLUB HOUSE DESTROYED.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The Metropolitan club house, the home of the most fashionable club in Washington, was gutted by fire today, involving a loss of from $60,000 to $100,000, partially covered by insurance. The fire was caused by a spark from an electric wire near the elevator shaft.

The flames broke out about 5 o'clock this morning and, fanned by a strong wind, soon enveloped the entire building. They were not extinguished until nearly five hours later. The club has a large membership embracing some of the best known men in public life, but none of them was in the building at the time of the fire, the only occupants being the watchman, steward, and two other employes, all of whom escaped without difficulty except Watchman Deponai, who gave the alarm and was afterward overcome by smoke. He was carried out by the firemen otherwise uninjured.

A library, estimated to be worth upwards of $15,000 and containing some volumes that cannot be replaced, escaped practically uninjured, and the flames did not reach the wine cellar. Manager Knight, of the club, estimates the loss on the building at $100,000, on which there is an insurance of $45,000, and on contents $35,000, with $15,000 insurance. The police estimate of the loss is considerably lower than these figures.

REPORT ON ALASKA.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The annual report of the governor of Alaska, John G. Brady, made public at the interior department yesterday, estimates the total white population of that district at 26,559, with possibly a small increase in the native population since the 1900 census, which made the total number of natives 29,536. The report says that this estimate for the whites will disappoint those who have steadily maintained that the number is more than five times the figure given. No marked change has occurred in the native population. The Aleuts have decreased some, the Eskimos on the Yukon delta and to the northward have probably held their own since their affliction four years ago, and the Thlingits, Hydahs and Tsimshoans, of southeastern Alaska, are adjusting themselves rapidly to civilized life and are mostly a vigorous people.

The total pack of the salmon canning industry has aggregated 1,910,000 cases during the past year. The report asks for better transportation facilities, representation by a delegate in congress, legislation to encourage the home-seekers and home-builders, and for the detail of waters to protect industries there.

CHEAPER ARMOR PLATE

Midvale Company's New Process of Making It.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The fact has become known that a satisfactory test of an armor plate made by the Midvale Steel company had been made at Indian Head proving grounds. It was a private test, made solely for the information of the plate makers, and officers of the bureau of ordnance feel that they are not at liberty to make public all the facts with regard to it.

It was an 8-inch side armor plate that was submitted to the assault of armor-piercing shells from an 8-inch gun. So far as the officers conducting the test have been able to discover, the armor was as good as the best that has ever been made by the Krupp process, thereby demonstrating to them that there is no longer any reason why this government should pay $450 for each ton turned out by the Carnegie and Bethlehem companies.

As to the process used in the production of the plate the officers of the ordnance bureau have nothing to say. They are not officially interested in that phase of the question. Those who have been to Midvale believe the process is practically the same as that which bears the name of the great German ironmaster. The presses and other tools look like the implements used in making Krupp plate.

The fact of greatest significance to them is that there is another factory in the country equipped to produce armor plate of the best quality. It seems that even if congress does increase the annual allowance of new ships there will be no delay in the construction of them as far as armor plate is concerned. It may mean a reduction in the price of that very necessary part of a modern ship of war.

The officers of the ordnance bureau believe the Midvale company will begin delivering plate early in the new year. By its contract the company is not obliged to begin deliveries until next July.

The government is using on an average 16,000 tons of armor plate annually. The success of the Midvale people will probably do away with Krupp royalties, and possibly with the Harvey royalties, and thus make a saving to the government of between $800,000 and $900,000 a year.

TWO CARRIERS REMOVED

Charged With Trying to Influence Legislation.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Postmaster General Wynne today removed two more rural carriers for alleged efforts to influence legislation, the employes being R. F. Nivan, of Berthoud, Col., and J. W. Whitehead, of Medina, O. Nivan is chairman of the executive board of the National Rural Association. Whitehead also is a member of the executive board and is secretary of the Ohio state organization of carriers. The executive board held a meeting in St. Louis as a result of whose instructions President Cunningham is said to have called on members of the national committees of both the Republican and Democratic parties to ascertain what support they would give to legislation for the carriers. The report on the investigation points out that Nivan's plan was that the rural carriers in each state should look into the question of supporting the candidates for election or re-election to Congress in their state and to such of these candidates as proved "true" to the carriers, the association would pledge its support for any political honors sought in the particular state.

Some letters which the department now has on file indicate that the carriers had outlined an elaborate plan which they expected would effect important results in favor of their cause and set out that the association must be free from entanglements with any particular political party, but must select for their support such men, regardless of party, as would promise their support to legislation for the carriers.

COMMISSION TOO LARGE

President Roosevelt Believes its Size Should be Curtailed.

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt has given consideration recently to suggestions looking to a reduction in the membership of the Panama canal commission, but thus far, it can be said, no definite decision has been reached. It has been urged by some members of congress that the commission is so large as to be unwieldy. It is known that Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, is inclined to the opinion that the commission is too large, and that the chief engineer of the canal ought to have greater initial authority than he now has.

Mr. Hepburn talked to the President today about canal matters, but he declined to say whether it was the intention of the committee to introduce a measure looking to the crystalization of his ideas into law. Before action of a definite nature is taken the subject will be considered carefully in all its phases.

PRESIDENT ACCEPTS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—President Roosevelt today accepted an invitation to visit the city of Richmond, Va., some time during the approaching year. The invitation was extended by a delegation representing the city government of Richmond. At the White House the delegation was joined by Senator Daniel and Thomas Nelson Page.

Mayor McCarthy presented the invitation in a brief address, couched in cordial terms, concluding with a promise of "such a welcome as the world would expect a brave, generous and hospitable people to extend to one of your exalted position and character."

The President told the delegation it would afford him pleasure to make the visit at as early a date as practicable, but at this time he could not fix a time definitely. He indicated, however, that it would be some time during the ensuing year, perhaps in the spring, but probably a little later.

RURAL MAIL BILL.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Representative Henry, of Connecticut, introduced a bill yesterday to secure the full use of the United States rural mail equipment and to place the rural service on a paying basis.

The bill provides "that within the limits of the respective rural routes, served by postal wagons, parcels of mail matter shall be collected and delivered from house to house by the carriers, in weight up to 200 pounds, and in dimensions up to a barrel—no parcel, however, to be more than six feet in length."

The bill specifies that the rates on parcels shall be one cent for eight ounces or less; two cents for a pound; five cents for from one to eleven pounds; ten cents for a half bushel, thirty pounds; 15 cents for a bushel; 20 cents for a half barrel; and 25 cents for a barrel.

Seven Killed in Wreck.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 26.—The passenger train which left St. Louis at 9 o'clock Saturday night on the Southern railway collided head on with the passenger train leaving Louisville about the same hour near Maud's Station, Ill., today. One passenger and six employes were killed and two passengers and eight employes were slightly injured.

Death of George L. Shoup.

Boise, Idaho, Dec. 21.—George L. Shoup, former U. S. senator from Idaho, died at his home here today. Mr. Shoup was in his 68th year. He had been ill several weeks.

MUST KEEP HIS PROMISE

Promised Widows and Relatives of Civil War Veterans They Should Receive Award for Work.

Washington, Dec. 24.—It will cost the United States government $26,000 to make good one of President Roosevelt's pre-election promises.

Secretary Taft directed that the manufacture of 55,000 pairs of soldiers' trousers be distributed among seamstresses living near the Schuylkill arsenal, Philadelphia. Bids invited last summer by the quartermaster's department showed the work could be done better and $26,000 cheaper by contract. As soon as it was decided to do the work by contract representatives of the Philadelphia seamstresses appeared at the Whitehouse.

President Roosevelt was informed that the seamstresses were widows and orphans of civil war soldiers and that they would suffer if the work went to contractors. The president declared that he wanted the seamstresses to have the work. He told the representatives of the seamstresses that he would order the work given to them. This was done.

Several weeks later, just before the presidential election, the seamstresses again made a complaint. The president desired to know why his order had not been carried out, and was informed that the law required that the work be given to the lowest bidder. He was also informed that the work was better when thus performed, and that the saving in cost was beneficial to the enlisted men, who are allowed to pocket what they save out of their clothing allowance.

This presented a complication for the president's word was pledged for the seamstresses. An appeal was made to the judge advocate general of the army. He rendered an opinion that the president or the quartermaster general might give the work to the seamstresses. This afforded a loophole from the statute.

The other side of the case has now come prominently to the fore. The contractors who expected to get the work have sent letters to the quartermaster general citing the fact that they, too, employ a large number of widows and orphans of soldiers of the civil war, besides a large number of veterans of the Spanish-American war. They say if patriotism has any play they should be considered.

TO RESEAT PEABODY.

Colorado Republicans Have Formulated Plans.

Denver, Dec. 26.—If the fifteenth general assembly of Colorado which is to meet on Wednesday, January 4, shall effectuate the plans formulated by the managers of the Republican post election campaign, Governor James H. Peabody may serve as chief executive of this state for two years more, despite the fact that Alva Adams still has nearly 10,000 plurality since the votes of five Denver precincts were set aside by order of the district court in consequence of frauds exposed in contempt proceedings against election officials.

There will be a Republican majority of thirty or more in the general assembly which will canvass the vote for state officers. It is proposed to have the general assembly appoint a special contest committee of from nine to twelve members, to which will be submitted the evidence of wholesale election frauds in Denver and possibly some other counties, which evidence the Republican committees have been collecting since the election.

The Republican managers maintain that with the fraudulent vote of Denver eliminated Gov. Peabody will have at least 7,000 plurality in this county and 2,000 in the state. The Republicans say they do not intend that the legal voters shall be sifted from the illegal and then counted, or that the legislature shall reject the entire vote of Denver county, but they purpose that about 1,800 Democratic precincts in the state shall be thrown out on the ground of alleged frauds and that the vote of the Republican precincts shall be counted. They assert that the supreme court has established a precedent for a procedure.

This radical program is opposed by some conservative Republican leaders and until the legislature meets and takes action it cannot be known certainly whether Peabody or Adams will be governor for the next two years. The Democratic leaders are preparing to contest vigorously the attempt to reseat Peabody.

The Democratic managers declare there is a monstrous conspiracy behind the disclosures of fraud shown in contempt proceedings before the supreme court. They say that the bunches of spurious ballots, all in one handwriting, found in the boxes from different precincts could not have been placed in the boxes on election day without having been observed by the watchers, and charge that the boxes have been tampered with since election, legal votes being abstracted and spurious ballots substituted therefor.

KNOWS WHERE GRAVE IS

And Nebraska Historical Society May Erect Monument.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 26.—J. C. Turner, a well-known citizen of Glenwood, Iowa, declares that he knows the exact spot where was buried Logan Fontenelle, the famous half-breed descendant of the house of Bourbon, who became an Indian chieftain, ruled western Indians with an iron hand and is said to have given Nebraska to the union of states. Mr. Turner declines now to reveal the grave of the celebrated chieftain, but says he will do so at the proper time and under the proper circumstances. After his death in battle with the Sioux Indians Fontenelle's body was buried among the bluffs of the Missouri river, but hitherto the exact spot has not been known. The State Historical Society of Nebraska, individual white men and the Omaha tribe of Indians have made repeated attempts to find it, but to no purpose. If the grave of the most famous "white Indian" the west has ever known is found the State Historical society will rear a monument over it.

POPE SHOWS INTEREST

Receives Bishop of Portland and Discusses His Plans.

Rome, Dec. 24.—The pope yesterday received in private audience the Right Rev. W. H. O'Connell, bishop of Portland, Me. When Bishop O'Connell entered the presence of the pontiff the latter embraced him, saying he knew he had for many years been rector of the American college here. He caused the bishop to sit next to him and conversed with his visitor lengthily regarding the affairs of the diocese. The pope remarked:

"Your diocese is vast. It must mean great work. I also know that the clergy are faithful and animated by a spirit of faith and harmony."

The pope inquired about the different nationalities composing the emigrants, dealing especially with the need of caring for them in a spirit of charity. He also said that he had received a report on the condition of the Italians from an Italian prelate who had returned from America. It gave him much consolation to learn of the interest and zeal manifested by the American prelates towards newcomers. He also spoke of the great progress made by Catholicism and was most pleased to see its development and the attachment of the faithful to the holy see.

WHISKERS IN ZION.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Dowie's edict that the men of Zion shall grow whiskers has resulted in the male portion of the community appearing with unshaven faces, while the barbers of the town are mourning the loss of business caused by the apostle's edict.

In the effort to protect themselves in some measure the barbers have entered into an agreement to shave no Zionite unless a haircut also is taken.

The result of this agreement has been to further depress the barber business in Zion and encourage a more cheerful compliance with the mandate of the apostle, as the Zionites concluded it was more economical to grow a beard than to pay for a haircut extra whenever they sought to be shaved. Thus it happens that compliance with the apostle's order appears almost unanimous in Zion and the crop of whiskers in the community promises to be luxuriant.

FOLK'S INTENTIONS

Almost Shocks Some Hearers of Speech.

St. Louis, Dec. 27.—In a speech at the Buckingham club Governor-elect Joseph W. Folk declared his position on some of the questions that will confront his administration. The occasion for the speech was a dinner tendered Mr. Folk by a number of business men.

The gathering was said to be non-partisan, but most of those present were Democrats, who were almost compelled to gasp when Mr. Folk announced some of the reforms which he intended stating at Jefferson City.

Briefly stated, the new governor proposes to stop bribery in all its forms at

JOSEPH W. FOLK.

the capitol; he will ask the legislature to declare forfeited all franchises secured by bribery and to pass laws requiring all franchises in future to be sold to the highest bidder.

He promises that the police departments of all the cities shall be conducted without regard to politics during his administration and that "every man of every party shall have the right to go to the polling place and cast his ballot without interference, and have it counted as cast, and no more counted than cast."

As if to clinch this statement, Mr. Folk adds:

"Under the present law the responsibility will be on the governor of securing fair and honest elections through his appointees. I shall accept the responsibility and protect the free exercise by every citizen of his right to vote. There should be home rule as far as practicable on all questions and local option on tax valuations for local purposes."

OLD TIME FENIAN DEAD

Was One of Those Who Landed Arms on Ireland's Coast.

Eldora, Iowa, Dec. 28.—Patrick Murphy, who has just died at St. Anthony's home at Asbury, Iowa, was one of the original members of the Fenian movement and was one of the daring band that landed arms and ammunition on the coast of Ireland. He was born near the town of Middleton, County Cork, about 70 years ago, and while still young emigrated to this country. During the early days of the civil war he enlisted, and in 1865 when the Fenian organization was established Mr. Murphy joined the society. He was one of the men detailed to go over to Ireland from America on board the Jackmel, and under the leadership of Augustine E. Costelloe, of New York, and others personally assisted in the transportation of arms from this country to Ireland. During the eventful voyage across the Atlantic and on Easter Sunday morning, 1865, the name "Jackmel" was changed and amid the joy and enthusiasm of the officers and men she was christened Erin's Hope. The flag of Ireland, with the sunburst and harp uncrowned, the symbols of a free Ireland, was run up to the masthead, green uniforms were distributed among the men and a salute of guns was fired in honor of the occasion. The boat landed near Gidway, on the west coast of Ireland, 1,000 strands in all. The entire coast was guarded at the time by the English government and the band of men indeed did a daring trick in landing where they successfully did. They then crossed over to Boulogne, France, where they were enthusiastically received by the mayor and inhabitants of the city, who feted them royally. Then then returned to America.

Mr. Murphy was also called upon to take part in the Fenian movement in Canada in 1866, and he again donned his green uniform. Although the men were sincere in their action at this time, Mr. Murphy always considered that they were misguided in the Canadian uprising. When the United States government interfered Murphy returned to Iowa and went to farming. About a year ago he came to Asbury to spend his declining years. It was always his hope to see Ireland occupy a prosperous position in Europe.

NEW SUBMARINE BOAT.

Newport News, Va., Dec. 23.—The submarine boat Simon Lake has had its trial trip. Mr. Lake personally conducted the trial of the new boat, which was built for a speed of eleven knots on the surface, and nine when submerged. The inventor said he had obtained results that gave him much gratification. The boat's speed, it is said, is phenomenal.

The mechanism moved as smoothly as clock-work for a brief time, when, owing to certain parts becoming clogged with grease and dirt, it was decided to abandon the extensive program of tests for the day. The new boat had, however, already demonstrated amply that she is a marvel beyond even the expectations of the most sanguine.

The Simon Lake X will probably be put through her paces again under the direction of Inventor Lake. He will remain here to direct the construction of his latest invention, the submarine cruiser, whose keel was laid a few days ago at the shipyard.

SCARCITY OF HICKORY.

Chicago, Dec. 22—Increasing scarcity of hickory wood in the United States has alarmed the manufacturers of wooden vehicles to such an extent that at a meeting here today of over 200 representatives of these manufacturers, the advisability of taking the matter before congress was discussed. Hickory trees have recently been attacked by an insect, which, it is said, is fast destroying that class of timber. It is declared that unless the government took action in devising means whereby these insects could be kept from breeding, in ten years practically all hickory trees in the United States will have been destroyed.

"There are now but three states from which we can draw our supplies," said P. F. Vanbebren of Evansville, Ind., "and hickory trees are becoming extinct in these states. The shortage in this article, which is the most essential component of a wooden vehicle, will probably necessitate a general rise in prices of all wooden vehicles."

TAKING TESTIMONY.

St. Louis, Dec. 21.—Attorney F. A. Schofield, of Hannibal, Mo., appointed to take depositions in the suit of a life insurance company of New York to cancel the $200,000 policy held by the late James L. Blair, of St. Louis, former general counsel of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company, has begun the taking of testimony at the federal building. The cancellation of the policy is asked on the grounds that Blair concealed the fact that he was uninsurable at the time he took out the policy in 1902, because of alleged forgeries, embezzlements and other crimes; also on the ground that Blair intended when he took out the policy, to commit suicide in case these were discovered.

ROOT MAKES AN ADDRESS

"A Corollary of the Monroe Doctrine" His Subject.

New York, Dec. 23.—Elihu Root, former secretary of war, was the chief speaker at the ninety-ninth dinner of the New England Society of the City of New York at the Waldorf-Astoria. His subject was "A Corollary of the Monroe Doctrine," and he said in part:

"The only relation that carries the possibility of war for this country is that declaration and adherence of the American people to the so-called Monroe Doctrine. There will be no frontal attack on the Monroe Doctrine. The way in which the cause of war may arise will be, if at all, by the conflict of rights, the existence of rights on the part of foreign powers against the American republics and the result of the enforcement of those rights of foreign powers against the American republics coming into conflict with this doctrine which we assert for our own safety and preservation.

"We do not undertake to say that the republics of South and Central America are to be relieved of their international obligations. We do not undertake to say that the powers of Europe shall not undertake to enforce their rights against these members of the sisterhood of nations. It is only when the enforcement of these rights comes to the point of taking possession of the territory that we say that is inconsistent with the peace and safety of the United States. And we cannot say that with justice unless we also say that the American republics are themselves to be just.

"It is always possible that redress of injury, that punishment for wrong, may lead to the occupation of territory. And if we are to maintain this doctrine which is fatal to our national life and its safety, at the same time that we say to the powers of the world: 'You shall not push your remedies for wrong against these republics to the point of occupying their territory,' we are bound to say that whenever that wrong cannot be otherwise redressed, we ourselves will see that it is redressed.

"Above all things, let us be just. Let us do equity when we come in the great court of civilization. Let us see that we ourselves and those whom we protect for our own safety are just and then our cause will be just."

$10,000 FOR SOME TOWN

That Will Agree to Take Name of Cushman.

Greenfield, Mass., Dec. 27.—By the death at Salem of Mrs. Anna Cushman, widow of the late Lieutenant Governor Henry W. Cushman, formerly of Bernardston, certain trust funds are released.

Ten thousand dollars is bequeathed under the will to the first town in the state of 1,000 inhabitants that adopts the name of Cushman. Bernardston can have the money if it takes the name, though it has less than 1,000 inhabitants. If the name is not adopted within five years by a Massachusetts town then the offer is open to any town of 1,000 inhabitants in the United States.

MR. WU IS OUT OF FAVOR

Has Hard Time in His New Position in Native Land.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—Bailey Willis, the lecturer, who has recently returned from China, saw former Minister Wu Ting-Fang. He says Mr. Wu is having a hard time in China.

He is connected with the Chinese bureau of commerce and learning. The head of this bureau is a very conservative old official, and the next in rank is a young prince who is completely under his superior's influence, so that Mr. Wu is anything but pleasantly situated.

THIS FIRM DIDN'T LOSE

Mrs. Chadwick Wanted to Buy $4,000 Ornamented Clock From It.

New York, Dec. 24.—Among the merchants who are congratulating themselves that they are not victims of Mrs. Chadwick is the firm of Harris & Harrington, importers of clocks, at No. 32-34 Vesey street. Mr. Harrington told yesterday how an expensive hall clock, manufactured by them for exhibition at the St. Louis exposition, almost fell into the hands of the Cleveland woman. Mrs. Chadwick was to buy the clock for $4,000 through a Cleveland jewelry firm. The New York firm was notified, however, not to deliver the clock until Mrs. Chadwick had make certain payments. The clock is still in the firm's possession.

While negotiations were pending, about a year ago, Mrs. Chadwick, accompanied by her husband, called at the salesrooms of Harris & Harrington to inspect the clock, which is ten feet high and made of gilded bronze and mahogany. The lady announced that it was just what she wanted.

Mr. Harrington said yesterday that the gentleman introduced to them as Dr. Chadwick was a little person who followed his wife around the room without saying a word. His opinion of the clock was not asked. Mrs. Chadwick, he said, remarked that she could not do any shopping "with a man at her heels."

FINGERS OFF, WORKED ON

Engineer Parlett Brought His Train Safely to End of His Run.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 24.—Sixty miles out from the Baltimore and Ohio station in this city, Edward T. Parlett, engine driver on the Royal Blue limited train, reached for the reverse bar. Just as he did so the bar jumped out of the quadrant and his right forefinger was caught between the reverse lever and a valve. The first two joints of the finger were clipped off and dropped into the tool box.

Parlett picked up the several joints and threw them out of the window.

"What's the matter, Ed?" shouted Brenner, the fireman.

"Bring over some waste," yelled Parlett, above the roar of the train, "and I'll show you."

Brenner climbed over and then, with the train going sixty miles an hour, the two men made a rude bandage.

Parlett fainted several times and was revived by water which Brenner threw into his face. The engine driver was game to the end, however, and when the train rolled into the station here, his only remark was, "Well, I got her in on time, anyhow."

WEBER HAD BILLS TO BURN

Didn't Like the Numbers on $10 Notes; In Asylum Now.

Columbus, O., Dec. 26.—Neither Cassie L. Chadwick nor the Count of Monte Cristo have anything on Henry Weber, a tanner, of this city, in the way of rapid disposition of money. They had theirs to spend; he had his to burn.

In other was he is distinguished and remarkable. For instance, he has not taken a bath in years, just to satisfy his curiosity to see how filthy he could really become. He also declined to live in a comfortable house on Broad street in order that he might occupy an old corn crib.

His relatives stood for the residence and lack of ablutions, but when they heard he was burning $10 bills because he could not use them otherwise they had him arrested for lunacy.

Weber told the officers, after they had gathered up a peck of watches, gold and silver coin and other valuables in the crib, that he had been burning "ten spots" for a long time. He did not like that particular number, he said, and then besides he did not need the money. Weber is in the state asylum now. Probate Judge Black committed him with a rush as soon as he heard his Nerolike antics with the good "green goods."

Cotton Burns on Ship.

New York, Dec. 26.—The steamship Colorado, of the Mallory line, and part of the cargo were damaged by fire and water today to the extent of from $20,000 to $25,000, according to estimates of the firemen. The Colorado arrived in port on Saturday from Brunswick, Ga., with a cargo of lumber, resin and cotton. The fire was confined to the cotton. It is thought to have originated from spontaneous combustion.

EXHAUSTED WHEN FOUND

Rowed In An Open Boat 200 Miles, Constantly Battling and Starving Before Rescuers Arrive.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—A voyage of 200 miles by oar, almost destitute of provisions and water, and pursued by a horde of giant sharks that threatened momentarily day and night to capsize the craft and devour its occupants, was the experience of Captain Sam Harris and four South Sea Islanders who composed the crew of the little trading schooner Victor, wrecked on Apataki island on November 20.

Apataki is two hundred miles from Papeete the port of Tahii. This is a tale of the sea brought by the liner Marpose, just arrived, which left Papeete on the day Captain Harris and his men landed there, emaciated and nearly crazed, but still alive.

When the Victor ended her career by striking the reef the shipwrecked crew barely had time to put off in the boat for their long voyage, made without a compass and no sail, with one day's provisions on board and half a dozen cocoanuts. The milk from the latter was all they had to drink during the eleven days it took to reach Papeete.

The passage was enlivened by a constant combat with the sharks. In the verification of their story oars were shown splintered and worn repelling the attacks of the ferocious fish, which gave them no rest.

The Victor was a trader among the Friendly and Society islands.

WILL HONOR OFFICIALS.

Japan to Decorate Prominent Men of St. Louis Exposition.

St. Louis, Dec. 24.—According to a cablegram from Baron Kinomura, minister of agriculture and commerce of Japan to Commissioner General Tegima to the World's Fair, President Francis, of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, is to be decorated with the gold medal of the first grade of merit of the Order of the Rising Sun.

The baron states that Frederick V. J. Skiff, director of exhibits, is to be decorated with the medal of the second grade of merit of the Order of Zuiho.

J. E. Smith, of the World's Fair board of directors, who was sent to Japan by the exposition company, to solicit the participation of the nation as well as of private exhibitors, is to be decorated with the fourth grade of merit of the Order of the Rising Sun.

THE MARKETS.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, O., Dec. 27.—Close.—Substantial gains marked the close of wheat today. The motives were accounted for in the excellent buying spirit northwest and the persistent attitude of the Wall street clique, with the Schwab interests in the van, bulling the market. Inglin cabling from Argentina, telling of further crop damage reports was also an item to which certain interests were allowing credence. There were no Liverpool cables. The eastern markets were scrutinized closely but because of acute wire troubles were unsatisfactory and reflecting no little nervousness. The biggest seller was reported in armour dumping approximately one million bushels. World's wheat shipments were larger. Finals showed cash and December had advanced 1¼c, the May 1½c and the July ⅞c.

The trend of wheat was indistinct during the early hours of trading today. Opening values were up ⅝c in the cash and December, while July was a shade weaker. May was the leader by a net gain of 1c flat. Motives inspiring such a bulge were indeterminate, but presumably were a reflexive influence of the bad Argentine news on the crop situation, which has been passing over the wires during the last two days. Later, however, May worked a shade easier, but the other options were unchanged. Receipts were moderate, considering the amounts represented—a three days' accumulation. Wire news in general was slow because of damage by sleet. No cable because of holiday period. The amount on passage represented a small decrease.

Despite the fact that corn receipts were running heavy with a three days' accumulation on hand, there was a strong undertone, which carried that commodity to a higher level. Opening values were unchanged to ⅛c higher, the December ⅝c in the May ¼c in the July. The market was a narrow affair. While obscure it was the existing opinion that the short interest was quite large and generally seeking cover. There were no cables. Amount on passage shows a gain 1,098,000 bushels. Receipts showed little falling off. Cash and December were pu ½c, while the May worked ⅝c higher. July advanced ¼c. World's shipments were substantially larger. Market was a narrow and dull affair at the advances. Offerings were light. No cables were received.

Oats was steady. Market was unchanged at the start from the closing values on Friday. Receipts were fair. Demand moderately active. Sympathy with the mood of the more active commodities was the active and sustaining influence in this market.

There was no change shown in oats today, the market persistently hovering over the closing level of last week. Trade was lethargic. No change in trend as shown by early developments. The closing was quiet and steady.

Clover seed was a firm commodity at the start. Values were higher. Receipts were small compared with what might be expected in a three days' accumulation. Inquiries were well distributed. Undertone was strong.

Clover seed closed in a firmm tone and values were a shade higher. Market was quiet. Buying orders were few but well scattered. Offerings were light.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Dec. 27 Dec. 24
Wheat.					
Cash	$1.17	$1.17½	$1.